Need For Environmental Regulations

History of American Environmental Movement

- ◆ Dominance 1600 to 1900
 Nature is hostile
- ◆ Early Awakening Mid 1800's
 Initial concern for wildlife preservation
- Early Conservationist Late 1800's to 1915
 - National Park Service
- ◆ Later Conservationist 1920 to 1960
 Maximize human benefit

History (continued)

- Reawakening 1960 to early 70's
 Major environmental laws
- Complacency mid 1970's
 Environmental not driving political force
- Reagan Revolution 1980 to present
 Roll back regulations

Need for Regulations

- ◆ Early History of Country
 - -Conquer nature
 - Belief no conflict between growth and resource management
- ♦ Born with Life, Liberty, Private Property
- ◆ Free Market Externalities
- Tragedy of Commons

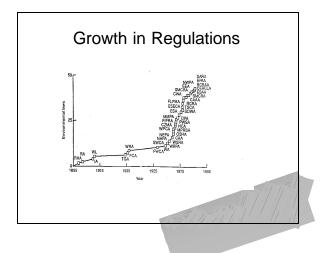
Free Market Economy

- Maximize utility of resources
- Economics is amoral
- Imperfect in account for Externalities

Tragedy of Commons

- ♦ Garrett Hardin 1968 article in *Science*
- ◆ Society using common area
- ◆ Rational person will maximize use
- \bullet Benefit = 1
- \bullet Cost = 1/n
- Exceed carrying capacity
- Ecosystem crashes





History of Environmental Laws

- ◆ 1800 to 1900 Promote Development
- ♦ 1900 to 1970 Directions to Federal Agencies
- ♦ 1970 to Present Directions to Individuals