

Letters to the Editor, Pensacola News Journal  
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Now that citizens have shown their “patriotism” by entering hot-dog-gorging contests and by entering red, white and blue bikini contests, wrapping their *derrieres* in our flag, I’d like to mention one aspect of real patriotism that is rarely mentioned, that of environmental protection. For all who claim to be religious and patriotic, imagine the earth as God’s body, His creation. If you are a believer, how can you reconcile polluting habits such as littering, gas guzzling and failure to recycle? If you are a corporate executive, how can you reconcile your religious beliefs with the contamination of our waterways, or be setting thermostats at uncomfortably cold temperatures? If you are one of our patriotic, religious, locally elected officials, how can you not implement a city or county-wide recycling program? You make it hard for responsible citizens to do the right thing. Those of us who recycle pay the bill for those who fill the landfills. If you are a God-fearing, patriotic politician, how can you make policies that result in more energy consumption instead of conservation? Shame on you. Patriots respect God’s creation, not just this country, but planet earth.