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Public Pulse

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A big "You bet" to Ruth Butler's taking the distributors of phone books to task (Feb. 10, 1998). And while I'm at it, I want to include the free local weekly *Advance* in the bashing. My business takes me into many neighborhoods and houses. Everywhere I see copies of *Advance* and phone books no one desires or has ordered cluttering up the place. And it is by no means only in February that the phone books add to the mess. Especially in rental properties where tenants come and go, I see these papers and books scattered everywhere throughout the year. These companies just impose themselves on us, clutter up our environment and eat up our forest resources.

As a property manager, I can get very angry at GR city government and overgovernment and interference. Since they are so eager to direct our daily affairs, I would suggest they interfere at this front. Put a stop to such indiscriminate deliveries. If people don't order, don't deliver. And don't counter the argument by reminding me that the distributors provide information about where to bring the unwanted copies. That's merely another imposition that is supposed to impress us with their sense of environmental responsibility.

In the meantime, let the city order these companies to collect the thousands of unwanted issues now scattered all over the place. Or charge the companies \$1 for each issue of *Advance* and phone book returned by the public to a designated depot. That could spell a handsome income for some entrepreneurial spirits and clean up the place. And probably the avalanche would soon be halted.