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University of Pennsylvania



# Institute for Environmental Studies

presents

## Mike Felker

Philadelphia Chapters of Veterans for Peace  
and the United Nations Association

## Chris Morssink

Consultant, Public Health Sciences Degree  
Program, University of Pennsylvania

# Landmines: Unnecessary, Uncivilized and an International Public Health Problem

Mine fields, along with unexploded ordnance such as cluster bombs, are exceptional environmental hazards, with devastating impact on human lives and on ecosystems. It is estimated that there are sixty to eighty million activated landmines in place globally, with another eighty to one hundred million stockpiled. This presentation will address the international landmine crisis, the United Nations de-mining efforts, political issues, and the local campaign to support the removal of landmines, currently focusing on Afghanistan. Landmines are obsolete in modern warfare, mostly harming civilians, and they are for that same reason examples of uncivilized warfare behavior. Furthermore, the public-health impact of landmines and cluster bombs, including environmental issues of human ecology, will be discussed. The presenters are members of the local chapter of the United Nations Association; Felker has had direct experience with landmines as a medic in Vietnam; Morssink is a public-health-policy academic. Both want to make the goal of peaceful existence available for all people.

**Date:** Thursday, March 27, 2003  
**Time:** NOON - 1:30 pm  
**Place:** Auditorium at Wistar Institute  
On Penn's campus: Spruce Street & Penn's 36<sup>th</sup> Street Walkway  
**No Food or Drink Permitted in the Auditorium**

### **NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

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