

## Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

### *Protect Georgia's Drinking Water*

The Clean Water Rule was recently finalized by the Obama administration after years of planning, 400 stakeholder meetings, and more than a million public comments. It safeguards our water and restores protections to the drinking water sources for 1 in 3 Americans. This includes the drinking water for nearly 1 out of every 2 Georgia residents. **The Clean Water Rule is a strong, commonsense policy that makes clean water a priority throughout the nation.** If Congress blocks the Clean Water Rule, at least 57% of Georgia's stream miles and millions of acres of wetlands nationwide will again be at risk from pollution and destruction from development, oil and gas production, and other industrial activities. Blocking this rule would imperil drinking water sources, as well as the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.



- **49% of Georgia residents get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.**
- **Protections were restored to 5,560 miles of streams** that feed into Georgia's drinking water sources.
- **Thousands of acres of wetlands** that provide flood protection, recharge groundwater supplies, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are safeguarded.

### Rule Provides More Economic Benefits than Costs

- **The Clean Water Rule restores, but does not expand, the historic coverage of the Clean Water Act.** EPA estimates that the rule will provide at least \$339 million and up to \$572 million annually in benefits to the public, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat, supporting hunting and fishing, and recharging groundwater.
- **Protecting small streams and wetlands supports fish, wildlife and Georgia's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$4.6 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Georgia, including \$873 million on fishing, and more than 3.1 million people participated in these recreation activities throughout the state.
- **Georgia's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Small Georgia breweries contribute almost \$671 million to our economy every year and support more than 6,800 jobs.

### Georgia Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **Nearly 11,000 GA residents, out of more than 800,000 Americans** expressed support for the rule in 2014.
- Over 200 conservation, environmental, and faith-based organizations representing thousands of Georgia residents.
- Several small businesses in Georgia also support the rule.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information please visit [www.protectcleanwater.org](http://www.protectcleanwater.org)