

Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

Protect Iowa'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 about 1 in every 5 Iowans. **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 62% of Iowa's streams and millions 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.



Lake Okoboji, IA: Credit: Mary Fairchild on [flickr](#)

- **21% of Iowans** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 2,318 miles of streams** that feed into Iowa'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 and wildlife and Iowa's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$1.5 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Iowa, including \$278 million on fishing, and more than 1.3 million people participated in these recreational activities in Iowa.
- **Iowa's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Iowa breweries contribute nearly \$330 million to our economy every year and support more than 3,700 jobs.

Iowa Clean Water Rule Supporters

- Nearly 4,000 Iowa residents, out of more than 800,000 Americans, support the rule.
- Groups like Iowa Citizens for Community Involvement, Iowa Trout Unlimited, and Iowa Wildlife Federation support protections for clean water.
- Iowa joined 34 other states in 2006 to urge the Supreme Court to uphold strong federal clean water protections and in 2003 opposed Bush administration efforts to roll back protections for small streams and wetlands.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information, please visit protectcleanwater.org.