

## Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

### *Protect Massachusetts' 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 3 in 4 Massachusetts 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 52% of Massachusetts'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.



- **73% of Massachusetts residents** their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 1,413 miles of streams** that feed into Massachusetts'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 Massachusetts's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$2.0 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in MA, including \$455 million on fishing alone, and more than 2.2 million people participated in recreational activities in Massachusetts.
- **Massachusetts's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Small Massachusetts breweries contribute over \$925 million to our economy every year and support at least 10,444 jobs.

### Massachusetts Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **Over 20,500 Massachusetts residents, out of more than 800,000 Americans support the rule.**
- Dozens of conservation, environmental, farming and health organizations, representing thousands of Massachusetts residents and several small businesses, including five MA breweries.
- Mayor of Boston, MA DEP, Former MA Secretary of the Environment, and 24 MA state legislators. MA also 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](http://protectcleanwater.org)