

Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

Protect North Carolina'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 North Carolina 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 56% of North Carolina'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.



- **48% of North Carolina residents** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 7,392 miles of streams** that feed into North Carolina'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 North Carolina's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$3.3 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in North Carolina, including \$1.5 billion on fishing alone, and more than 3.5 million people participated in these recreation activities throughout the state.
- **North Carolina's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Small North Carolina breweries contribute over \$791 million to our economy every year and support more than 10,000 jobs.

North Carolina Clean Water Rule Supporters

- Over **15,740 NC residents, out of more than 800,000 Americans** support the rule.
- Nearly 30 conservation, environmental, and faith-based organizations representing thousands of North Carolina residents.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information please visit www.protectcleanwater.org