

Stop the Attack on the Clean Water Rule

Protect Tennessee'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 over 1 out of every 2 Tennessee 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 60% of Tennessee'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.



Wolf River – tennessee.gov

- **55% of Tennessee residents get** their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that are protected by the Clean Water Rule.
- **Protections were restored to 10,585 miles of streams** that feed into Tennessee'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 Tennessee's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$2.9 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Tennessee, including \$1.1 billion on fishing alone, and more than 2.6 million people participated in these recreation activities throughout the state.
- **Tennessee's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Small Tennessee breweries contribute almost \$446 million to our economy every year and support more than 5,400 jobs.

Tennessee Clean Water Rule Supporters

- Over **7,200 TN residents, out of more than 800,000 Americans** support the rule.
- Groups like Tennessee Environmental Council, Obed Watershed Community Association, National Tribal Water Council, Tennessee Council of Trout Unlimited, Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, and Harpeth River Watershed Association support protections for clean water.
- Recent polling shows that 79% of Americans want Congress to let EPA implement the Rule.

For more information please visit www.protectcleanwater.org