

Stop the Attack on Kentucky's Drinking Water

Stop the attacks on America's drinking water. 1 in 3 Americans' drinking water sources are at risk now. That includes the drinking water for 3 in every 4 Kentuckians. **The Administration has a strong, commonsense plan to make clean water a priority by protecting the sources that feed the drinking water for more than 117 million Americans, including 3.3 million Kentuckians.** If Congress blocks the proposal to protect clean water, at least 55% of Kentucky's streams and 20 million acres of wetlands nationwide will continue to be at risk from pollution and destruction from development, oil and gas production, and other industrial activities. Stopping this proposal imperils drinking water sources, as well as the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.

Cumberland Falls near Corbin, KY



Credit: Stevie Kenyon on [flickr](#)

- **75% of Kentuckians – about 3 out of 4 residents –** get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams currently vulnerable to pollution.
- **8,185 miles of streams** that feed into Kentucky's drinking water sources are at risk. The Clean Water Rule would clarify protections for 54% of the stream miles in KY's Source Water Protection Areas, including intermittent, ephemeral, and headwater streams.
- **Thousands of acres of wetlands** that provide flood protection, recharge groundwater supplies, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are at risk.

Rule Provides More Economic Benefits than Costs

- **This commonsense proposal restores, but does not expand, the historic coverage of the Clean Water Act.** EPA estimates that the proposed rule would provide **\$388 million to \$514 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 Kentucky's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$2.9 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Kentucky, including \$807 million on fishing, and more than 1.7 million people participated in these recreational activities in Kentucky.
- **Kentucky's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Kentucky breweries contribute \$270 million to our economy every year and support more than 2,700 jobs.

Kentucky Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **More than 4,100 Kentuckians, out of more than 800,000 Americans, expressed support for the rule.**
- Groups like Sierra Club Kentucky, Community Farm Alliance, Trout Unlimited, Agricultural Missions, Inc., and Kentucky Resources Council support protections for clean water.
- Kentucky also joined 34 other states in 2006 to urge the Supreme Court to uphold strong federal clean water protections and in 2003 the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection submitted comments opposing Bush administration efforts to roll back protections for small streams and wetlands.

For more information, please visit protectcleanwater.org.