

Stop the Attack on Massachusetts'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 nearly 3 in every 4 Massachusetts residents. **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 4.9 million Massachusetts residents.** If Congress blocks the proposal to protect clean water, at least 52% of Massachusetts's stream miles 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.



- **73% of Massachusetts residents – nearly 3 out of 4 residents** - get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams currently vulnerable to pollution.
- **1,413 miles of streams** that feed into Massachusetts's drinking water sources are at risk. The Clean Water Rule would clarify protections for 54% of the stream miles in MA'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, 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 \$925million to our economy every year and support at least 10,444 jobs.

Massachusetts Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **Almost 20,000 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 of 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.

For more information please visit protectcleanwater.org