

Stop the Attack on New York'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 more than half of all New Yorkers. **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 more than 11 million New Yorkers.** If Congress blocks the proposal to protect clean water, at least 55% of New York's stream miles and 20 million acres of wetlands nationwide will continue to be at risk from pollution and destruction caused by 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.

NY's iconic Long Island Sound



- **56% of New Yorkers – 1 out of 2 residents** - get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams currently vulnerable to pollution.
- **5,728 miles of streams** that feed into New York's drinking water sources are at risk. The Clean Water Rule would clarify protections for 55% of the stream miles in NY'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 New York's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011, \$9.2 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in New York, including \$2 billion on fishing alone, and 5.5 million people participated in these recreational activities.
- **New York's thriving brewing industry relies on clean water.** Small New York breweries contribute almost \$2.2 billion to our economy every year and support more than 20,000 jobs.

New York Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **More than 67,000 New Yorkers, out of more than 800,000 Americans expressed support for the rule.**
- More than 25 conservation, environmental, faith-based and agricultural organizations, representing many thousands of New Yorkers as well as small businesses such as breweries and food companies.
- The New York Attorney General and New York City. NY 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