

## Stop the Attack on Virginia's Drinking Water

The drinking water for 1 in 3 Americans is at risk now. That includes the drinking water for 1 in every 4 Virginians. **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 2.3 million Virginians.** If Congress blocks the proposal to protect clean water, at least 57% of Virginia'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 will not only put drinking water at risk across the country, but will impact the small businesses and communities that rely on clean water.



Cascade on South Fork Moormans River, Albemarle Co, VA. Jim Waite.

- **Twenty-eight percent of Virginians – more than 1 in 4 residents** – get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams currently vulnerable to pollution.
- **5,290 miles of streams** that feed into Virginia's drinking water sources are at risk. The Clean Water Rule would clarify protections of for 57% of the stream miles in Virginia'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 will largely restore, but not expand, historic coverage of the Clean Water Act, at no direct cost to the public.** 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 is vital for fish and wildlife and Virginia's vibrant recreational industry.** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011 \$3.5 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Virginia, including \$1.1 billion on fishing, and more than 3 million people participated in recreational activities in Virginia.
- **Clean water is essential for Virginia's thriving brewing industry.** Small Virginia breweries contribute \$622 million to our economy every year and support 8,163 jobs.

## Virginia Clean Water Rule Supporters

- **More than 34,000 Virginians, out of more than 800,000 Americans, expressed support for a strong Clean Water Rule.**
- More than 60 conservation, environmental and sportsmen groups.
- City of Alexandria, Town of Herndon, and 11 Virginia state legislators.
- Dozens of small businesses, including local brewers.

For more information please visit [protectcleanwater.org](http://protectcleanwater.org)