Conserving and Restoring West Virginia’s Exceptional Rivers and Streams

Yes! I want to help West Virginia Rivers protect our streams for recreation, wildlife and for our health and enjoyment.

I’d like to donate:
- $250
- $100
- $75
- $50
- Other $ __________

Frequency of gift: [ ] One time [ ] Monthly

[ ] do not want to receive public acknowledgment of my donation

Printed name ____________________________
Phone ____________________________
Address ____________________________
Email ____________________________
City __________ State __________ Zip Code __________

Please charge amount above to Visa OR MasterCard
Expiration Date (MM/YY) __________ / __________
Credit Card Number ____________________________
Security Code ____________________________
Signature ____________________________
Date __________

You can also donate online at WVRivers.org.

Safe Water for West Virginia

Our Safe Water programs are kicking into high gear this summer. Multiple projects in the Eastern Panhandle, a water festival in Buckhannon and a community park in Marlinton are bringing community members together for increased drinking water protections. Each community has its own specific needs to better protect drinking water and our Safe Water projects are diverse. Community members and partners drive the development of our programming, whether it’s working with farmers to adopt practices to protect headwater streams, or planting trees in riparian areas.

But there is one universal threat to drinking water, and it might be a surprising one. It’s stormwater runoff. It sound innocuous, but stormwater runoff poses a serious threat to drinking water. It starts with problems like washed out driveways, flooded parking lots, and standing water on roads. Where does all that water go? It flows directly into our water supplies carrying chemicals and pollution with it like lawn fertilizers, automotive fluids, sediment, and animal waste.

To help community groups and watershed organizations across the state tackle stormwater runoff, we developed a toolkit called Stormwater and You. The toolkit provides groups with resources, like a brochure, a slideshow, and a social media plan, to develop a campaign to help their community address runoff. You can find the toolkit here: WVRIVERS.ORG/STORMWATER

Conserving and Restoring West Virginia’s Exceptional Rivers and Streams

HEADWATERS
Conserving and Restoring West Virginia’s Exceptional Rivers and Streams

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CHAIR
Chrissy Zeltner
VICE-CHAIR
Doug Evans
SECRETARY
Ed Gertler
TREASURER
Turner Sharp
Paul Breuer
Eric Engle
Shawn Romano
David Ruediger
Rachel Tompkins
Nancy Ward

STAFF
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Angie Rosser
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Myia Welsh
OPERATIONS MANAGER
Kathleen Tyner
STAFF SCIENTIST
Autumn Crowe
EASTERN PANHANDLE FIELD COORDINATOR
Tanner Haid
PUBLIC LANDS COORDINATOR
Rhea Mitchell

WV Rivers
3501 MacCorkle Ave. SE #129
Charleston, WV 25304-1419
(304) 637-7201 | wvrivers.org
wvrivers@wvrivers.org
Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter: @OurWVRivers

WATERKEEPER ALLIANCE
When doing the visual assessment, volunteers use online interactive mapping systems to allow them to identify pollution by viewing aerial photography. Like our visual assessment program, this new program can make it even easier for folks to be guardians of their waters. To learn more and watch the training videos go here: WVRIVERS.ORG/PIPELINEVISUAL.

Court actions have halted unlawful stream crossings for the Atlantic Coast and Mountain Valley pipelines for now, but the companies are voicing their confidence that legal challenges will be resolved in their favor so that construction across streams will begin this fall. This is crucial news for West Virginians, as it means our homes and communities are safer. We will continue to defend the Clean Water Act. And we’re working to make sure the program is fully funded.

To learn more about our consultant-led efforts, visit WVRIVERS.ORG/ABOUT/STAFF. With a larger team, we’re able to tackle more issues, like climate protections in WV’s water quality standards. Because the WV Legislature decided to delay the updates, so that the chemical industry can do their own studies, we need your help to make sure decision-makers hear the science behind protective water quality standards, not just hear baseless claims from industrial polluters!

We are on our way to raising the money needed to bring forward sound-science that tells us the pollution limits needed to avoid unsafe exposure to toxics and cancer-causing chemicals in our water. But we need your help. Make a tax-deductible donation to WV Rivers Science Fund using the enclosed envelope or online at WVRIVERS.ORG.

So far, with your donations, we’ve been able to hire two scientists to help us gain an in-depth technical understanding of how limits are calculated based on things like cancer risks, body weight, and fish/water consumption. Now, we’re attending public meetings and doing our own analysis of the industry-backed studies. This work is expensive. Chemical manufacturers aren’t sparing any expenses to convince lawmakers to keep the status quo or even weaken our water quality standards. Join WV Rivers now. Together we can ensure decision-makers hear the facts about our water protections.

The West Virginians for Public Lands Alliance, coordinated by WV Rivers, saw years of advocacy efforts come to fruition this spring when Congress passed one of the largest pro-public lands packages in decades, including permanent reauthorization of Land and Water Conservation Fund—one of our nation’s most successful conservation programs. West Virginia’s entire congressional delegation voted in favor of the bill. Senators Manchin and Capito led the bipartisan effort to pass the bill in the Senate. Now, Senator Manchin is working to make sure the program is fully funded. He’s introduced a new bipartisan bill that would appropriate $900 million in annual funding from off-shore oil and gas royalties to LWCF. LWCF is an important program for West Virginia, to date the state has received $2.7 million from LWCF for conservation and recreation projects in 54 of our 55 counties. Learn more about LWCF here: WVRIVERS.ORG/OUR-PROGRAMS/PUBLIC-LANDS/ISSUES.