



choose **clean** water

Clean water is a choice that must be made by individuals, communities, states and countries. Hundreds of choices are being made today that will have results for our rivers and surface waters. We have to make sure those results improve our lives and our communities, and lead to cleaner water, not more pollution. The time for promises has passed, we need results. The deteriorating condition of the Chesapeake Bay is an indicator of our collective failure, throughout the region, to protect our rivers and streams, and the economies and ecologies that they sustain. It is unfair for a community, a state, or an individual to pollute someone else's water.

*Pollution of our waters has to stop in the Shenandoah, James, Susquehanna, Potomac, Choptank, and everywhere else.*

To this end the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Coalition launched the "Choose Clean Water" campaign in 2009 to seek federal leadership to restore clean water to the hundreds of rivers and streams that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. With more than 100 groups to date the Coalition, and the members of its non-profit organizations, work with both the federal government and in the local communities of the 53 members of Congress that represent the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Coalition members accept responsibility for doing their part to hold federal officials accountable for achieving clean waters, encouraging individuals and communities to support the goals and programs necessary to achieve clean waters, and assisting wherever possible to implement programs necessary to achieve clean waters.

Our priorities for 2009 focus on federal policy that will provide clean water. These goals will be revisited annually by the full membership of the Coalition.

#### Improving the Clean Water Act/Chesapeake Bay Program

President Obama's recent Executive Order calling the Bay a "national treasure" and ordering increased federal restoration efforts demonstrates the need for attention to pollution coming from non-point sources, including agricultural operations and urban and suburban storm water runoff. We must get the Environmental Protection Agency to step up and begin enforcing the law, and requiring that the individual states do the same. And we want the EPA to gain some additional power, from Congress, to make sure everyone is playing by the same rules and not taking advantage of loopholes or lack of will. The Coalition is working hard to support Senator Cardin and Congressman Cummings' legislation that addresses these problems, the Chesapeake Clean Water and Ecosystem Restoration Act of 2009.

#### Water Quality Improvement in the Surface Transportation Bill

We must ensure that Congress writes new policy and funding priorities in transportation that get results in protecting our waters. Making the transition to a clean energy future, increasing our transportation options, and improving road design are crucial choices for clean water.

#### Safeguarding the Chesapeake Bay from the Impacts of Climate Change

Choosing clean water means reducing the impact of global warming pollutants. Changes are occurring in migration and habitat patterns, new incidents of flooding, drought, sea level change, and storms are being observed nearly everywhere. Nobody knows exactly how local communities will need to adapt to such changes, but it is prudent to be prepared and make sure we have the ability to take appropriate action.

**Chesapeake Bay Watershed Coalition  
Members to Date – October 2009**

1000 Friends of Maryland  
10000 Friends of Pennsylvania  
Adkins Arboretum  
Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM)  
American Rivers  
Anacostia Riverkeeper  
Anacostia Watershed Restoration Partnership  
Anacostia Watershed Society  
Audubon MD/DC  
Audubon Naturalist Society  
Audubon Society of Northern Virginia  
Baltimore Harbor Waterkeeper  
Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network  
Bay Hundred Foundation  
Bohemian River Association  
Chapman Forest Foundation  
Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum  
Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage  
Chester River Association  
Choptank River Eastern Bay Conservancy  
Citizens for a Fort Monroe National Park  
Clean Water Action  
ClearWater Conservancy  
Coalition for Smarter Growth  
Corsica River Conservancy  
Delaware Nature Society  
Dorchester Citizens for Planned Growth  
Ducks Unlimited  
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy  
Elizabeth River Project  
Environment America  
Environment Maryland  
Environment Virginia  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Environmental Working Group  
Float Fishermen of Virginia  
Friends of Dyke Marsh  
Friends of Lower Beaverdam Creek  
Friends of Powhatan Creek Watershed  
Friends of Shenandoah Mountain  
Friends of the Blue Ridge Mountains  
Friends of the Chemung River Watershed  
Friends of the Nanticoke  
Friends of the North Fork of the Shenandoah River  
Friends of the Rappahannock  
Friends of the Rivers of Virginia  
Growth Action Network of Anne Arundel County  
Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway  
Herring Run Watershed Association  
James River Association  
Jones Falls Watershed Association  
Lower Shore Land Trust  
Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper  
Lynnhaven River NOW  
Maryland Bass Federation Nation  
Maryland League of Conservation Voters  
Mattawoman Watershed Society  
Nanticoke Watershed Preservation Group  
National Aquarium  
National Parks Conservation Association  
National Wildlife Federation  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Nature Abounds  
New York League of Conservation Voters  
Partners for Open Space  
Partnership for Smarter Growth  
Peach Bottom Concerned Citizens Group  
PennFuture  
PennEnvironment  
Pennsylvania Council of Churches  
Pennsylvania Farmers Union  
Pennsylvania Interfaith Climate Change Campaign  
Phillips Wharf Environmental Center  
Piedmont Environmental Council  
Potomac Conservancy  
Potomac Riverkeeper  
Presbyterian Citizens in Action  
Public Policy Virginia  
Queen Annes Conservation Association  
Restore America's Estuaries  
Sassafras River Association  
Savage River Watershed Association  
Severn Riverkeeper  
Shenandoah Valley Network  
Sierra Club- Maryland Chapter  
Sierra Club- Pennsylvania Chapter  
Spring Creek Watershed Commission  
South River Federation  
Southern Environmental Law Center  
St. Mary's River Watershed Association  
Talbot Rivers Protection Association  
Upper Susquehanna Coalition  
Virginia Conservation Network  
Virginia League of Conservation Voters  
Virginia State Waterman's Association  
Virginia Wilderness Committee  
West/Rhode Riverkeeper  
Wetlands Watch  
Wicomico Environmental Trust  
Wild Virginia