

ASSAULT ON CLEAN WATER THREATENS TENNESSEE

DESPITE THE FUNDAMENTAL NECESSITY OF CLEAN WATER, politicians in Washington are trying to dismantle the Clean Water Act, which has kept our nation's waters clean for nearly 50 years. This bedrock environmental safeguard is a central tool used by state and local governments to shield and protect clean water needed for healthy communities and families. Without it, polluted waters would threaten Tennessee's local economies, communities, and way of life.

Allowing open dumping into upstream waters spells trouble for everyone downstream. Pollution dumped by industry flows from smaller streams into our rivers and lakes, across state lines, and downriver, contaminating waters used by families and communities for drinking and recreation. The best way to protect clean water is to stop harmful pollution at its source, before it reaches our waterways.

If the administration's proposal becomes law, more than half of the stream miles in the United States are at risk.¹ In the South, this proposal puts at risk the drinking water sources for over 32 million people, or seven out of ten southerners.² A host of upstream waters such as smaller streams and wetlands would be at risk of pollution and fill under the proposal. Estimates show it would end protections for most of the 110 million acres of wetlands in the contiguous United States.³

WHAT'S AT STAKE IN TENNESSEE?

This proposal threatens to remove protections from drinking water sources for 200 million Americans,⁴ including the drinking water for three of every four Tennesseans.⁵

Under the proposal by the administration and supported by industrial polluters, more than 32,000 miles of streams that flow into Tennessee's rivers and lakes would be at risk for pollution if the Clean Water Act is cut as the administration suggests.⁶

Hundreds of thousands of acres of wetlands in Tennessee that provide flood protection, filter pollution, and provide essential wildlife habitat are at risk.⁷

At least seventy-eight percent of Tennesseans get their drinking water from sources that rely on small streams that may lose critical Clean Water Act protections under the administration's proposal.⁸



CLEAN WATER IS BIG BUSINESS IN TENNESSEE

 **\$1 MILLION+**
MADE BY ALL 95 COUNTIES FROM TOURISM

 **\$1.1 BILLION**
SPENT ON FISHING

 **\$2.9 BILLION**
SPENT ON WILDLIFE RECREATION

 **\$1.1 BILLION**
FROM BREWERIES

 **\$124.4 MILLION**
FROM WINERIES

 **\$691 MILLION**
FROM WHISKEY EXPORTS

ECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR TENNESSEE

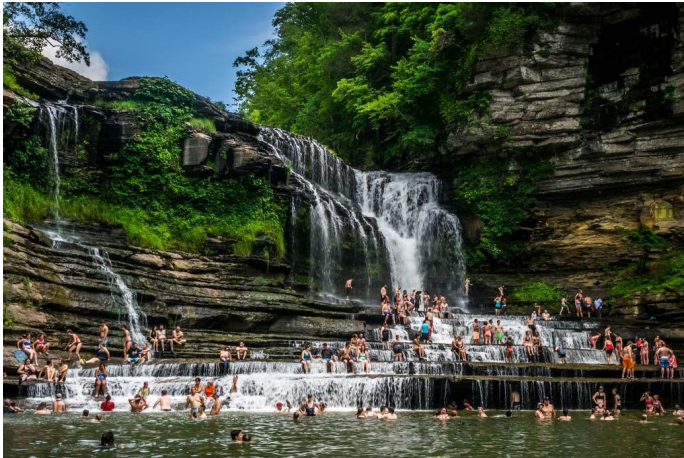
By EPA's own estimates, their proposal will put at risk at least \$339 million and up to \$572 million annually in benefits to Americans, including reducing flooding, filtering pollution, providing wildlife habitat and supporting hunting and fishing.⁹

Protecting small streams and wetlands supports fish and wildlife, and Tennessee's vibrant recreational industry. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reports that in 2011 \$2.9 billion was spent on wildlife recreation in Tennessee, including \$1.1 billion on fishing, and more than 2.6 million people participated in wildlife related recreational activities in Tennessee.¹⁰

Tennessee's thriving breweries, wineries, and distilleries rely on clean water. Small Tennessee breweries contribute more than \$1.1 billion to our economy every year and support 7,052 jobs.¹¹ Our winery industry is valued at \$124.4 million and nearly half of the counties in Tennessee have at least one winery.¹² Our one-of-a-kind whiskey trail draws people from all over the world, and whiskey ranks as one of the state's top exports valued at \$691 million.¹³

Tourism is Tennessee's No.2 industry. All 95 counties in Tennessee brought in more than \$1 million from the economic impact of tourism in 2016.¹⁴

People come to Tennessee to visit the unique natural and historic attractions. Whether it's to visit one of our up-and-coming

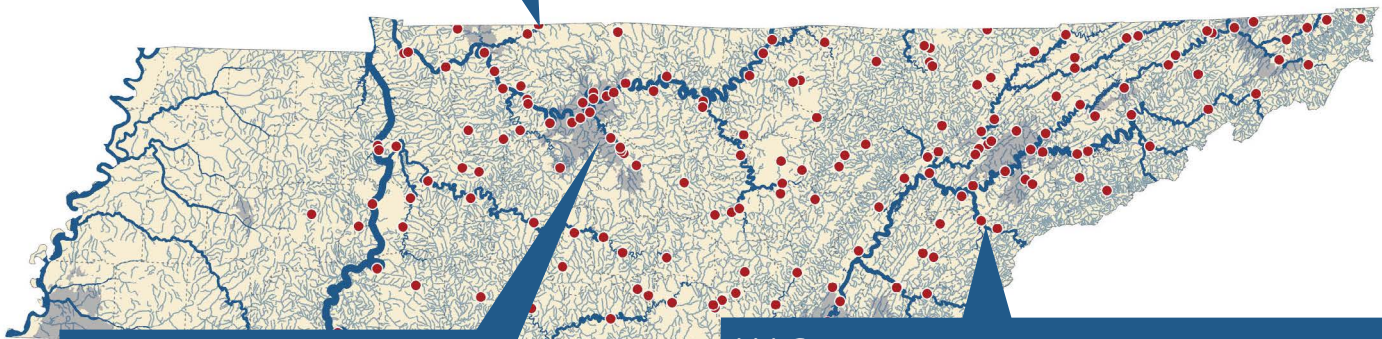


craft distilleries, whitewater raft in the Ocoee, or visit the Great Smoky Mountains – the places that draw people to Tennessee rely on clean water. The Great Smoky Mountains alone welcomes more than 9 million visitors annually that spent \$818 million in the communities surrounding the park in 2011.¹⁵

TENNESSEE'S COMMUNITIES ARE INTERCONNECTED WITH WATERWAYS

Most people in Tennessee get their drinking water from surface water intakes connected to rivers and streams.

● Public drinking water intakes



In Nashville, the drinking water for over 800,000 people is at risk.



Pollution dumped upstream travels downstream, putting billions of dollars of revenue at risk.

For more information please visit ProtectSouthernWater.org

¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 2013. Water: Streams. Accessed at <https://archive.epa.gov/water/archive/web/html/streams.html>.

^{2,4,5,8} Calculations from EPA Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS). 2017. Accessed at <https://ofmpub.epa.gov/apex/sfdwf?p=108:1::NO::>; AND U.S. Census Bureau (USCB). 2017. National and State Population Estimates. Accessed at <https://www.census.gov/newsroom/press-kits/2017/estimates-demographics.html>

³ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2009. Status and Trends of Wetlands in the Conterminous United States 2004 – 2009. p37. Accessed at <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/documents/Status-and-Trends-of-Wetlands-in-the-Conterminous-United-States-2004-to-2009.pdf>

^{6,7} EPA and U.S. Department of the Army. 2018. Economic Analysis for the Proposed Revised Definition of "Waters of the United States". p219-221. Accessed at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-12/documents/wotusproposedrule_ea_final_2018-12-14.pdf

⁹ EPA and U.S. Department of the Army. 2015. Economic Analysis of the EPA-Army Clean Water Rule. p53-54. Accessed at https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-06/documents/508-final_clean_water_rule_economic_analysis_5-20-15.pdf

¹⁰ U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau. 2011. National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation - Tennessee. p5-8. Accessed at <https://www.census.gov/prod/2013pubs/hw11-tn.pdf>.

¹¹ Brewers Association. 2016. Economic Impact by State. Accessed at <https://www.brewersassociation.org/statistics/economic-impact-data/>.

¹² Boyd Center for Business and Economic Research. 2018. An Economic Report to the Governor of the State of Tennessee. Accessed at <http://cber.haslam.utk.edu/erg/erg2018.pdf>.

¹³ Aifs, Lizzy. 2017. Tennessee officially has its own whiskey trail. Tennessean. Accessed at <https://www.tennessean.com/story/money/2017/06/19/tennessee-officially-has-its-own-whiskey-trail/390963001/>

¹⁴ Tennessee Department of Tourism Development. 2017. FY 2017 Annual Report. p18. Accessed at https://industry.tnvacation.com/sites/industry/files/component/pod/Annual_2017_Web.pdf.

¹⁵ National Park Service (NPS). 2013. Great Smoky Mountains National Park Tourism Creates \$818 million in Local Economic Benefit. Accessed at <https://www.nps.gov/grsm/learn/news/tourism-local-benefits.htm>