

Potomac Riverkeeper Network: We Protect Your Right to Clean Water



Our Mission

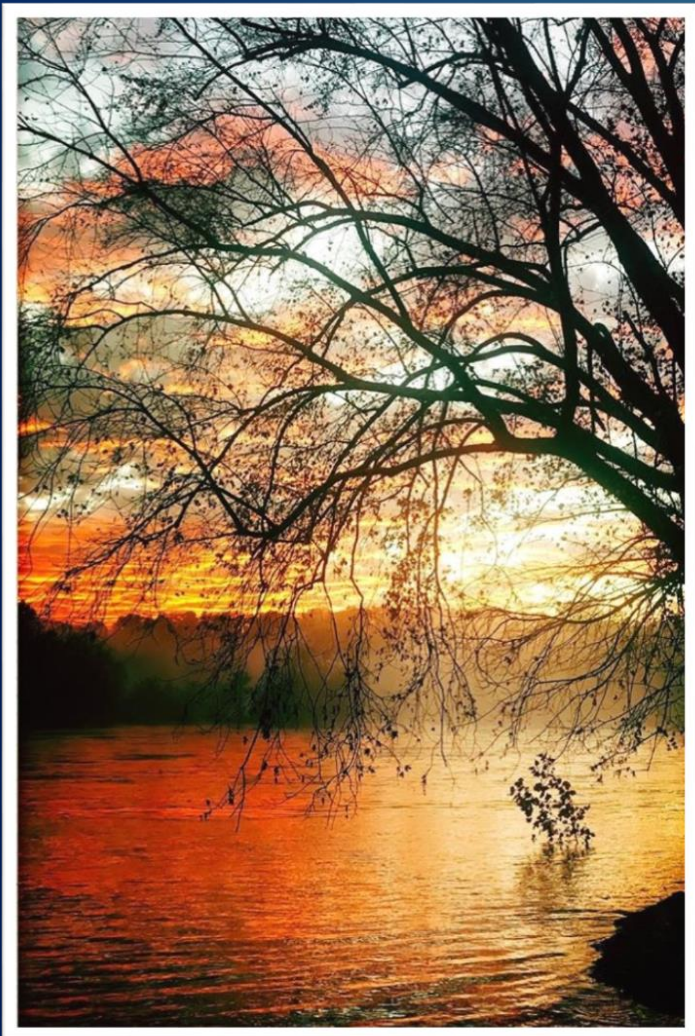
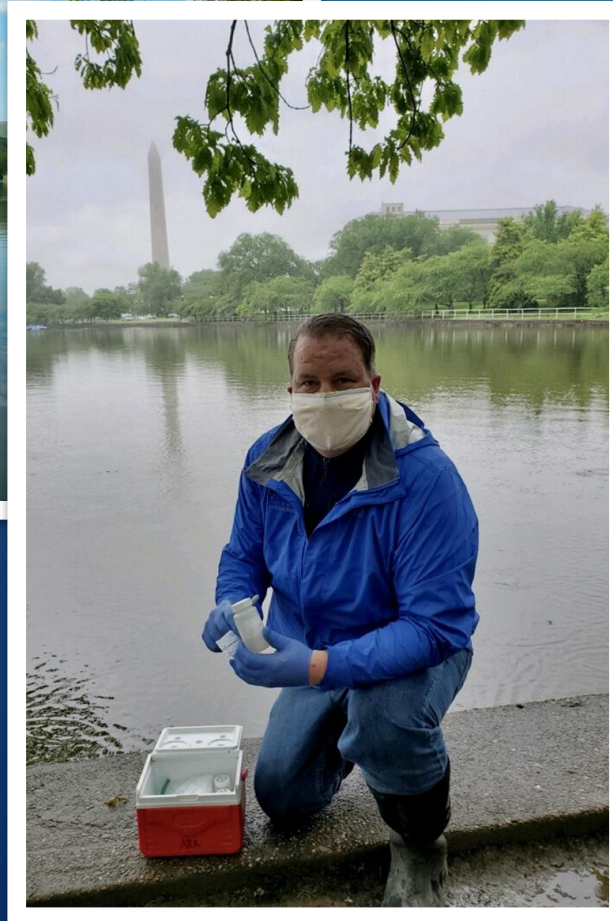


Photo by Skip Brown

PRKN's mission is to protect the right to clean water for all communities and all those who live and rely upon the Potomac and Shenandoah watersheds by stopping pollution, making drinking water safe, protecting healthy habitats, and enhancing use and enjoyment for all.

Our Approach



Riverkeepers on the water and in our communities

Eyes, ears and voice of the river

- Assessment
- Advocacy
- Enforcement
- Engagement

Contact us:

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CLEAN WATER JUSTICE ACT

Allowing communities impacted by water pollution to enforce state law

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The U.S. Supreme Court removed countless streams and wetlands from federal Clean Water Act (CWA) protection, eliminating communities' right to enforce the CWA to protect these waterways.



Maryland still protects these waterways, plus groundwater, but the state has no right for communities to enforce state law like under the CWA. Most noteworthy water pollution enforcement actions are brought by community groups.



This bill provides a new right for impacted community members to enforce the law in state court the same way they were previously able to do in federal court.



Allowing community groups to work alongside the state to enforce clean water laws will bring much needed enforcement capacity to the state to ensure safe water for all.

Why Government enforcement isn't enough

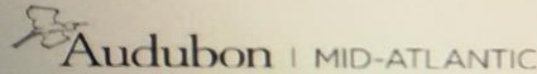
- Decline in enforcement cases for decades
- MD Agencies are underfunded and don't have the current capability to be everywhere
- Very little state or federal water quality monitoring
- Administrations Change!



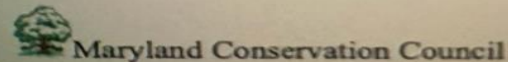
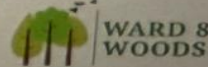
Many Supporting Organizations



Baltimore Jewish Council
An agency of The Associated



Maryland Catholics for Our Common Home
Responding to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.



Quaker Voice of Maryland

HB1101 – Clean Water Justice Act

These didn't warrant enforcement



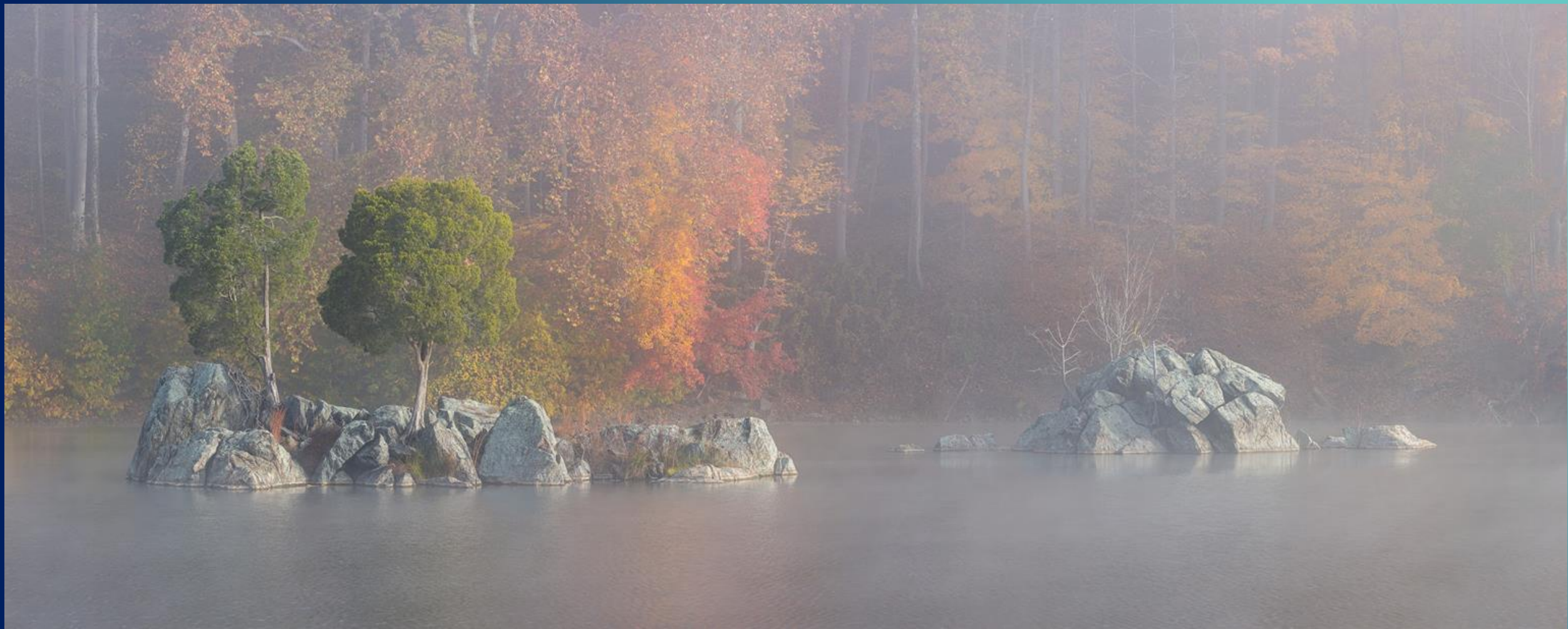
Or These ...



What the Legislation Will Do



- 1) Allow injured community members to enforce the law to stop water pollution
- 1) Require the same standing that is required under federal law
- 1) Provide needed capacity to MD Agencies



Clean Water Justice Act of 2024

What Marylanders Can Do to Protect Maryland Waters