

SAVE OUR WATER CT

We are a non-partisan, citizen-led group working to protect Connecticut's waters though increased citizen engagement. Though we started in Bloomfield to fight the incursion of a massive water bottling plant, we now reach throughout the state, allying ourselves with multiple environmental organizations concerned with protection of our water resources.

Our efforts have helped to create:

- An independent Consumer Advocate at the MDC (the Metropolitan District Commission, which oversees the drinking water supply for 8-member towns, including Hartford).
- Legislation to ensure that basic water data is available to the public and those agencies that oversee our public water supplies.

NOW, we are focused on the State Water Plan, the result of a year-long process to create a plan for protecting our most important public resource. The plan was forwarded to the legislature on Jan 23, 2018, where it will be reviewed by four legislative committees (Public Health, Environment, Planning and Development, and Energy and Technology). Committee hearings will be held early in the legislative session (dates TBD).

The final plan survived a furious last-minute onslaught which pressured the Water Planning Council to remove language referring to water as a "public trust resource" even though it was frequently raised by citizens during the plan's formation and its comment period. IT IS CRITICAL THAT THIS LANGUAGE REMAIN – AND BE ENHANCED- IN THE PLAN.

WATER IS A PUBLIC RESOURCE, BELONGING TO THE PEOPLE OF CT AND HELD IN TRUST BY THE STATE TO BE MANAGED SUSTAINABLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF GENERATIONS TO COME.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- <u>Write Your Legislator</u> about the importance of including this language in the State Water Plan.
- Stay up to date with developments on our Facebook page (<u>SaveOurWaterCT</u>) or website (<u>www.saveourwaterct.org</u>). Email us at <u>info@saveourwaterct.org</u>. We'll keep you up to date with select Action Alerts and notify you when your input at legislative hearings will be crucial.
- Wear your blue SAVE OUR WATER CT button and spread the word to neighbors and friends.