



# Invest in the Clean Water & Safe Communities Bond

Water is Maine's most essential resource. Yet we only seem to notice it when there is too much or too little—or if it's dirty. We must manage our state's water resources to protect clean drinking water sources, help communities safeguard themselves against extreme storms and flooding, and restore our fisheries.

## Maine needs new approaches to securing, restoring and maintaining water resources

- The Clean Water and Safe Communities Act is a proposed \$50 million bond to allow investment in natural and built infrastructure that provides water-related benefits for communities across Maine. Funds will be split 50/50 between investments in:
  - Natural Infrastructure, including the conservation or restoration of drinking water aquifers, headwater forests, freshwater and coastal wetlands, lakes and ponds, rivers, streams and their floodplains, clam flats, and eelgrass beds;
  - Built Infrastructure, including stream crossing (culvert) upgrades, small (non-hydro) dam removals, LID stormwater management projects, and irrigation system enhancements.



## Maine's water resources are critical assets that support our economy and quality of life; Timely, rationally planned and cost-effective investments in these assets will help Maine



- Ensure an abundant and high quality drinking water supply statewide;
- Allow communities to more effectively prepare for extreme storms and flood events;
- Conserve habitat for recreational fisheries, waterfowl and other important fish and wildlife species;
- Strengthen Maine's long-term economic base and competitive advantage;
- Create and preserve jobs in engineering; and
- Save money in the long-term by mitigating future infrastructure needs.

**The Legislature should pass Representative Jeff McCabe's bill:  
*An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities*  
(The Clean Water and Safe Communities Act, LD 1455)**

*For more information, please contact Jenn Burns Gray, 207-781-6180 ext. 224 or [jgray@maineaudubon.org](mailto:jgray@maineaudubon.org)*

The logo for the Environmental Priorities Coalition features the text "Environmental Priorities Coalition" in white on a blue background. To the right of the text are three stylized mountain peaks in shades of green and blue.

**Environmental  
Priorities  
Coalition**

## **Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition**

is a partnership of 28 environmental, conservation and public health organizations representing over 100,000 members who want to protect the good health, good jobs and quality of life that our environment provides.

*We are counting on Maine policymakers to take the important steps needed to make wise use of Maine's extraordinary environment so Maine people and Maine's economy can thrive.*

350 Maine	Maine Lakes Society
Appalachian Mountain Club	Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Atlantic Salmon Federation	Maine People's Alliance
Bicycle Coalition of Maine	Maine Rivers
Conservation Law Foundation	Maine Wilderness Guides Organization
Environmental Health Strategy Center	Natural Resources Council of Maine
ENE (Environment Northeast)	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Maine Chapter
Environment Maine	Product Policy Institute of Maine
Friends of Casco Bay	RESTORE: The North Woods
Maine Audubon	Sierra Club, Maine Chapter
Maine Center for Economic Policy	The Ocean Conservancy
Maine Conservation Alliance	The Wilderness Society
Maine Council of Churches	Toxics Action Center
Maine Council of Trout Unlimited	
Maine Interfaith Power & Light	