The Clean Water Act is Under Threat from U.S. Supreme Court

Written by Sharon Fisher

People care deeply about clean water. Our rivers, lakes, and streams are vital to a healthy environment and a vibrant economy, and provide endless opportunities for swimming, fishing, boating, and other recreation. Above all, we need clean, safe drinking water to live.

Polluters are pushing to prevent the Clean Water Act from protecting streams and virtually all wetlands. It is vital that we protect our Appalachian mountain streams and wetlands – everything flows downstream.

On October 3, the United States Supreme Court will hear arguments in a case called “Sackett v. EPA”, which will determine which waters can and cannot be protected by the Clean Water Act.

If special interests get what they’ve asked for in the case, it would severely undermine the long-standing safeguards for wetlands that help protect our communities from flooding and streams that supply our drinking water.

The Clean Water Act was enacted 50 years ago with extraordinary bipartisan support and has served as our most fundamental tool for protecting waters across the country. Wetlands protect communities by naturally preventing excess flooding during catastrophic weather events as experienced recently in eastern Kentucky and southwest Virginia and are essential for trapping and filtering pollutants that would otherwise be carried into downstream waters.

The Clinch Coalition’s mission includes the protection of our watersheds. More information will be coming leading up to the Supreme Court listening to oral arguments and continuing until their final decision, expected early next year.

The Clinch Coalition is one of nine organizations across the nation to receive funding to inform the public about the Clean Water for All Coalition campaign.
Prioritize Your Health?  
Get a Prize!

Participate in TCC’s Health Station at this year’s rally to get the chance to win a free copy of Dr. Wally Smith’s book, High Lonesome Trails!

Make sure to register for this year’s rally and attend our health station this Saturday! If you do, you can get a chance to win the first comprehensive summary of trails published in print for the High Knob area of far Southwest Virginia.

Register at www.clinchcoalition.org/registration.

If you would like to become a member or make a donation, please visit www.clinchcoalition.org.