KEEPING OUR WATER CLEAN:
FOR DRINKING, FOR PLAYING, FOR LIFE

Photo courtesy of Tom Wachs
Hello Friends!

Potomac Riverkeeper Network had a successful year in 2018 stopping pollution to protect the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers.

Some of these successes include:
• Developing a plan with Alexandria Renew to eliminate its discharges of 170 million gallons of raw sewage per year into the Potomac by 2025
• Enforcing Frederick, Maryland’s wastewater treatment plant permit to reduce its nutrient pollution of the Monocacy River, a tributary of the Potomac River
• Working with a strong group of partners to halt construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, a 600-mile unneeded interstate pipeline that threatens pristine headwater streams across Virginia
• Removing 17 herds of cattle from the Shenandoah River to prevent fecal pollution and destruction of riparian buffers along the riverbank

We spread the word about the beauty of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers with paddling, rafting, fishing and birdwatching events. River users are often the best stewards, so we work hard to expand the recreational use of these scenic rivers. In addition to our summertime RiverPalooza paddles, we launched our first ever RioPalooza, a day-long river festival for Spanish-speaking water enthusiasts.

Thank you to all of our members, supporters, and volunteers who work relentlessly to keep our beautiful Potomac and Shenandoah rivers swimmable, fishable, and drinkable!

Let’s do great things together!

Nancy Stoner, President
“The efforts of the Potomac Riverkeeper Network at trying to find common ground between water quality advocates and farmers and their farming practices are slowly bearing fruit, and I applaud the entire organization.”

– George Ohrstrom
Chair, Clarke County Planning Commission
Co-Chair The Piedmont Environmental Council,
Chair, Clarke County Easement Authority

1,100 & COUNTING...
Our three Riverkeepers patrolled 1,100 river miles by canoe, kayak, raft, and motorboat. Riverkeepers responded to citizen watchdog reports, investigated and stopped pollution as dedicated stewards of their namesake rivers.

1,000,000
We prevented more than a million pounds of heavy metals and other industrial pollutants from washing into the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers.

20,000
We kept more than 20,000 pounds of nutrients out of the river.

40
We obtained operational changes by 40 farms to reduce pollution in the Shenandoah.

THIS IS YOUR WATERSHED!
The Potomac watershed stretches over 14,000 square miles across parts of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.
2018 was a busy year protecting the Potomac River. I’m proud to say that we made progress on many issues:

• We worked with the Virginia legislature and City of Alexandria to address raw sewage pouring into the Potomac every time it rains. By 2025, the city will have virtually eliminated its untreated sewage dumping into the river.

• We filed a lawsuit that forced the City of Frederick to complete upgrades to its polluting wastewater treatment plant after years of delay. The plant is now meeting strict permit limits on nutrient discharges, which will protect the Monocacy and Potomac Rivers and Chesapeake Bay.

• We worked to force Dominion Energy to safely dispose of four million tons of coal ash amassed in unlined pits that have been leaching toxic heavy metals into groundwater, drinking wells, and the Potomac River for decades. We organized a massive outreach and media campaign, drawing the support of the Governor as well as bipartisan leadership in the Virginia General Assembly.

“I have been working with PRKN on the coal ash at the Possum Point Power Plant since early 2016 and I can't say enough about this great organization and especially Dean who has worked tirelessly on this cause. I especially want to say thank you for all PRKN has done for my family. Your organization has truly shown us that we matter.”

– Patty Marrow
Landowner near Possum Point
Coal Ash Pits
PROTECTING THE BEAUTY OF THE UPPER POTOMAC RIVER

After a brutal two-year fight, we had a stunning victory stopping the Potomac Pipeline! Maryland’s Board of Public Works unanimously rejected an application for an easement that would allow the pipeline to be built over state land.

- TransCanada’s dangerous and unnecessary pipeline would have been built under the Potomac River near Hancock, MD.
- We compelled regulators to weigh the risk of an accident that would contaminate the Potomac River, threatening downstream drinking water for millions of people. This is a major victory for clean water!

Our grassroots rallies, petition drives and town hall meetings activated local communities and generated media coverage that spread the word about stopping this pipeline.

“Brent is always ready with the latest science and on-the-ground observations to educate the public and policy makers to protect our streams and wetlands.”

– Ann Bristow
President, Savage River Watershed Association

“When our volunteer group mobilized to stop wastewater pollution in our town, Brent Walls was an invaluable resource. He helped guide our efforts, provided valuable advice, testified before our Town Council and even performed ongoing effluent testing. Without Brent’s assistance, we wouldn’t have been as effective in encouraging a long-needed upgrade to our sewer plant. Thank you for helping us keep the Cacapon clean!”

– Tim Reese
Keep the Cacapon Clean
PROTECTING THE SHENANDOAH RIVER

We had a busy year protecting our beautiful Shenandoah River, and we also had time for fun!

• With our strong legal partners, we halted construction of the 600-mile Atlantic Coast Pipeline, preventing destruction of headwater streams and the taking of private property.
• We reduced the number of cattle herds wading in and directly polluting the Shenandoah by half.
• We launched our first annual RioPalooza, an outreach event to engage the Latino community in our work to honor and protect our rivers and communities.

“I would like to thank the Shenandoah Riverkeeper for its input during the course of the Lee Ranger District Range Management project. Their information provided valuable insight into the impact of cattle grazing along the Shenandoah River and the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and was key in forming the decisions for all of our cattle grazing areas on the Lee Ranger District.”

– Joby P. Timm
Forest Supervisor, US Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Making Your Hometown Rivers Swimmable, Fishable, Drinkable

ENSURING CLEAN WATER FOR ALL TO ENJOY!

Since 2000, Potomac Riverkeeper Network has been helping to protect the public’s right to clean water in our rivers and streams.

We are your experts on the river, your advocates, your voice for clean water.

The river is great for birdwatching, paddling and family fun!

WE COULDN’T DO IT WITHOUT OUR 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

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Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., President of Waterkeeper Alliance, with Chairman of the Board Nick Kuttner at our Law & Water Gala
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

89% of the budget goes toward protecting the watershed

$1,000,000
Of in-kind pro bono legal services

We protect your right to clean water by enforcing the Clean Water Act. Our work would not be possible without the very generous legal support donated on our behalf. Our legal partners include: Earthjustice, Southern Environmental Law Center, Environmental Integrity Project, Sidley Austin, the Chesapeake Legal Alliance, Georgetown University, Columbia University, Widener University and the University of Maryland.
Special Thanks to All of Our 2018 Supporters!

The Board of Directors, your Potomac, Shenandoah and Upper Potomac Riverkeepers, and Staff dedicate this space to recognizing our supporters who have given generously in 2018 to support our work, from the watershed headwaters at Fairfax Stone in West Virginia, through the Shenandoah Valley, into Pennsylvania and down the Potomac to its mouth at the Chesapeake Bay. NOTE: Every effort has been made to properly acknowledge donors. Please contact Emily Franc at Emily@prknetwork.org if a listing is in error.

*R Indicates 2018 Board Member

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**I'M A RIVER CHAMPION**
Katherine Ward

“I am a River Champion, because when I’m enjoying a lazy float on either the Potomac or the Shenandoah I understand what our Riverkeepers do for creatures large and small.”
WE ARE RIVER GUARDIANS
Tim and Bree Hill

“We are River Guardians because we feel strongly that our waterways need to be protected and cared for while they continually provide for our surrounding communities. Water holds a close place to our heart and it means a lot to be surrounded by people who feel the same way as our Shenandoah and Potomac Riverkeepers.”

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Membership connects you to a passionate community woven together by our streams and rivers that start at your local, hometown waterway and extend all the way to the Chesapeake Bay.

MONTHLY GIVING
Setting up a recurring monthly donation enables you to be more generous at a pace that suits you, where less (monthly) is truly more (annually).

LEGACY GIFTS
A legacy gift is more than a donation. It is an expression of your desire to make a difference far into the future. With your legacy gift, you help ensure that our work to protect your right to clean water can continue to benefit your children and grandchildren and the rivers we love.

MEMORIALS & TRIBUTE DONATIONS
Tribute Giving is an opportunity to celebrate a birthday, graduation, wedding, or to honor the memory of a loved one. Friends and family may make donations in honor of an individual and in support of clean water.

SHOP ONLINE
Shopping sustainably through Wee Green, a new online marketplace for sustainably sourced items, and through Amazon Smile, will direct a portion of the proceeds to Potomac Riverkeeper Network.

WORKPLACE GIVING
Consider starting or joining a matching donation program at your workplace and designate PRKN as your charity of choice using Combined Federal Campaign or EarthShare (PRKN #87828).
This is YOUR watershed, help us protect it!

Learn more at www.potomacriverkeeper.org

Photo courtesy of Roy Sewall