



## Online Resources

“Protecting water” is a huge topic, encompassing the need to safeguard natural water and municipal water systems from privatization, the need to use water wisely, the issue of emerging pollutants and groundwater contamination, well and municipal water safety, and our responsibility to protect local wetlands and watersheds. Below are a few of the many online resources for learning more about the issues covered here tonight, and for researching proposed water actions.

### Bottled water, the right to water, and keeping water in the public trust

◆ Local and national **Leagues of Women Voters** have long supported water related study and action, starting with the Clean Waters Act of 1966. League actions have helped protect groundwater from contamination, established monitoring of bottled water purity, and developed publications on water protection, including *Safety on Tap*, *Crosscurrents*, a video on “Tools for Drinking Water Protection,” and a citizen handbook: *Protect Your Groundwater: Educating for Action*. For more information: [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org) and [www.lwvma.org](http://www.lwvma.org)

◆ **Alliance for Democracy** works to strictly limit corporate influence over government and policymaking. Its Defending Water for Life campaign organizes against commodification of water and the privatization of water resources and municipal water systems, often at the town level through local ordinance. The campaign’s national website features links to state-level water campaigns. See [www.thealliancefordemocracy.org/water.html](http://www.thealliancefordemocracy.org/water.html)

◆ **Corporate Accountability International’s** “Think Outside the Bottle” campaign exposes how water bottlers have manufactured demand by eroding confidence in public water systems. CAI also works with communities seeking to protect their water rights. [www.stopcorporateabuse.org](http://www.stopcorporateabuse.org)

◆ **Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom** emphasizes the human right to water and promotes “Blue October”—the October anniversary of Uruguay’s declaration of the human right to water—as a focus for education and action on local water issues. [www.wilpf.org](http://www.wilpf.org)

◆ **Center for a New American Dream’s** bottled water page has facts and resources, good for people needing a push to give up drinking bottled water. [www.newdream.org/water](http://www.newdream.org/water)

◆ The **Blue Planet Project** is an international coalition defending the right to water and keeping water as part of the global commons. <http://www.blueplanetproject.net>

### Water, pollution, and climate change

◆ **Clean Water Action** protects drinking water and watershed environments from toxics, highlights climate change and the need for alternative energy, and works to pass pro-environmental legislation. [www.cleanwateraction.org](http://www.cleanwateraction.org)

◆ The **Environmental Protection Agency** has a page on climate change and its possible impact on water resources at [www.epa.gov/climatechange/effects/water](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/effects/water)

◆ The **Pacific Institute** has a searchable bibliography of technical articles on water and climate at <http://biblio.pacinst.org/biblio>

#### A reading list on water issues:

*Bottlemania, How Water Went on Sale and Why We Bought It*, Elizabeth Royte

*Thirst, Fighting the Corporate Theft of Our Water*, Alan Snitow, Deborah Kaufman, Michael Fox

*Blue Gold, The Fight to Stop the corporate Theft of the World’s Water*, Maude Barlow, Tony Clarke

*Inside the Bottle, An Expose of the Bottled Water Industry*, Tony Clarke

*Water Consciousness, How We All Have to Change to Protect our Most Critical Resource*, edited by Tara Lohan with essays from Bill McKibben, Vandana Shiva, Maude Barlow and more

Good documentaries include *Flow* (2008), *Tapped* (2009), *Thirst* (2004), and *The Story of Bottled Water* (video online)

## Local, state and federal resources

- ◆ The web page for the **Town of Concord, Water/Sewer division** features information on municipal water and sewage treatment, local regulations, and wastewater management. You can read annual water quality reports, and learn more about how local water is treated. [www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA\\_Water/index](http://www.concordma.gov/Pages/ConcordMA_Water/index)
- ◆ The **Carlisle Board of Health** website offers information on testing private wells and maintaining home septic systems. [www.carlislema.gov/Pages/CarlisleMA\\_Health/index](http://www.carlislema.gov/Pages/CarlisleMA_Health/index)
- ◆ **Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's** website provides comprehensive regulatory and safety information on the state's water, from aquifer and brook to tap and drain. See the following pages for more information: Drinking water, testing of private wells and state-certified labs for water quality testing: [www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking.htm); Protection of groundwater and wetland water and habitat resources: [www.mass.gov/dep/water/waterres.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/waterres.htm); Regulations and information concerning wastewater and septic systems: [www.mass.gov/dep/water/wastewat.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/wastewat.htm); Emergent pollutants: [www.mass.gov/dep/toxics/emerge.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dep/toxics/emerge.htm)
- ◆ There are quick links on the **Environmental Protection Agency's** site for many water related issues. Massachusetts is part of EPA region 1; the web address is [www.epa.gov/region1](http://www.epa.gov/region1)

## Local Watershed Protection and Environmental Organizations

- ◆ The **SUASCO Community Watershed Council** promotes the sustainable economic and environmental well being of the Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River Watershed. [www.suasco.org](http://www.suasco.org)
- ◆ **Sudbury Valley Trustees** is a regional land trust that conserves land and protects wildlife habitat in the Concord, Assabet, and Sudbury river basin. [www.sudburyvalleytrustees.org](http://www.sudburyvalleytrustees.org)
- ◆ **Organization for the Assabet River** protects habitat and water quality in the Assabet River watershed, with particular focus on water quality testing and mitigating the impact of wastewater. [www.assabriver.org](http://www.assabriver.org)
- ◆ **Sudbury River Watershed Association** conducts advocacy, water quality monitoring, and public education to improve the river as a habitat and resource. [www.sudburyriver.org](http://www.sudburyriver.org)
- ◆ **Sudbury, Assabet and Concord River Stewardship Council** coordinates conservation of the "Wild and Scenic River" segment of those rivers as an advisory committee to the National Park Service. [www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org](http://www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org)
- ◆ Concord's **NMI/Starmet facility** produced depleted uranium shells and disposed of 200 tons of DU on an unlined pit on the property. It is now on the Superfund National Priorities List. You can follow updates on the site at [www.nmisite.org](http://www.nmisite.org) and [www.crewconcord.org](http://www.crewconcord.org), the site for Citizens Research and Environmental Watch group.

## The Precautionary Principle and Emerging Toxins

- ◆ The Precautionary Principle Project's website explains what the precautionary principle is, with relevant problems, issues, and publications. [www.pprinciple.net/the\\_precautionary\\_principle.html](http://www.pprinciple.net/the_precautionary_principle.html)
- ◆ The web page for the European Union's new regulation on chemicals, titled "REACH": **Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemical substances** has links to video on chemical hazard and to NGOs working on safety issues. [ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach\\_intro.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach_intro.htm)

## At home

- ◆ For diy non-toxic cleaning product recipes, see **Ecocycle**. [www.ecocycle.org/hazwaste/recipes.cfm](http://www.ecocycle.org/hazwaste/recipes.cfm)
- ◆ **The California Urban Water Conservation Council's** interactive website, [h2ouse.org](http://h2ouse.org), has tips for home water conservation.

**League of Women Voters of Concord-Carlisle** [www.lwvcc.org](http://www.lwvcc.org)  
**Carlisle Climate Action** [carlisleclimateaction.org](http://carlisleclimateaction.org) ● **North Bridge Alliance for Democracy** [www.newenglandalliance.org](http://www.newenglandalliance.org)  
**Concord CAN** [www.concordconserves.org/concordcan/home](http://www.concordconserves.org/concordcan/home)