



Clean Water Action is a national environmental non-profit organization, with over 1 million members nationwide and offices in 13 states, including Connecticut and the District of Columbia. Our mission is to protect our environment, health, economic well-being and community quality of life. Clean Water Action organizes strong grassroots groups and coalitions to tackle the most pressing public and environmental health issues at the state and federal level. Overarching campaigns include mitigating climate change, getting toxic chemicals out of products and the marketplace, protecting our water from dirty energy threats like fossil fuel extraction and power plant pollution, keeping our clean water laws strong and effective and building a future of clean water and clean energy for all.

2018 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

RAMPING UP RENEWABLE ENERGY: Climate change is the most pressing public health and environmental issue of our time. According to a recent report, greenhouse gas emissions in Connecticut have gone up since 2000.¹ We must reverse this trend and commit to a bold critical path forward to ramp up renewable energy for all. This critical path includes assuring that we achieve our legally mandated requirement to reduce GHG emissions by 80% by 2050 and adopting a *Renewable Portfolio Standard* that requires utilities to purchase a fast-growing portion of their supply from renewable sources and favors in-state renewables. Renewable energy supply should include a diversified mix of sources such as in-state solar, wind, hydropower, heat pumps, advanced buildings, electrified transportation and mass transit. This includes access to community shared solar for all.

ELECTRIFICATION OF CT'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM: Meeting these bold GHG targets will require rapid electrification of our transportation system with expanded infrastructure and on-going incentives for the purchase and lease of electric vehicles.

PROTECTING CT'S WATER: Climate change is water change. We cannot be complacent about the quantity and quality of our state's water. Clean Water Action was pleased that a process for developing a comprehensive state water plan was required by PA 14-163. We support the adoption of a comprehensive water plan that provides coordinated oversight, management and protection of our state's waters, protection of Class I and Class II lands, resolves the issue of diversions which legally allows for over-allocation of streams, establishes an ethos of conservation, early drought management and implementation steps and puts protections into place against large scale water bottling companies from gaining rights to bottle water without state oversight and an environmental review process.

REDUCING THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FROM TOXIC CHEMICALS: Connecticut has been a leader in raising awareness on the health impacts of chemicals, including toxic chemical flame retardants. Clean Water Action will continue to support policies that ban organohalogen flame retardants in furniture and children's products as well as enforcement of current pesticide restrictions and restricting further, pesticide applications on all school grounds, including 9th-12th grade.

¹ http://acadiacenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/CT_Roadmap_Part_I_Overview.pdf