



New Jersey Highlands Coalition

Action Alert

It's All out War in Trenton!

The builders have the bucks, the access, and the Governor on their side. And unless we can rally enough opposition, they will have the majority of our Legislature too. In military terms, that is a coup!

Our water supply, open spaces and clean air are the targets of the campaign!

The new State Strategic Plan, the draft NJ Energy Master Plan, NJDEP's proposed Waiver Rule and several bills currently under consideration in the Legislature, will position New Jersey for a development free-for-all, just in time for an improved economic climate.

Tomorrow's battle:
Water Quality Management
Planning Rules [A4335](#) / [S3156](#)

On Thursday the Assembly Environment Committee will be considering a bill that would gut protections for water quality; open up environmentally sensitive areas to sprawl and over-development; and permit NJDEP to ignore the Water Quality Management Planning currently underway by the Highlands Council. It will allow the kinds of non-sustainable and sprawl promoting development projects in the Highlands that the Highlands Regional Master Plan is meant to prevent.

The Water Quality Management Planning Rules establish where sewers go, determining where sprawl and overdevelopment occur, and regulate septic standards which is important for protecting groundwater quality. The legislation would substantially weaken and delay the implementation of these important regulations. If this legislation passes it will mean more pollution, loss of more open space, and more flooding. This legislation will undo years of progress in cleaning up and protecting our waterways. [Write to our Legislators NOW](#) calling on them to stand up for the environment by voting NO on this alarming bill!

Thank you!

Thanks to NJ Sierra Club, our partner among many in this effort, for hosting the action page in the above link.

The New Jersey Highlands Coalition represents a diverse network of organizations - small and large, local, regional, statewide and national - and individuals with the common goal to protect, enhance and restore the New Jersey Highlands and to preserve the quality and quantity of drinking water both for the 800,000 people in the Highlands as well as the more than 4.6 million people in surrounding areas who depend on Highlands water. For more information visit our [website](#), like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.