

As a public health professional, I believe that it is the government's responsibility to protect clean and healthy waters in Connecticut. Public health and environmental standards exist to ensure that water can support aquatic life and is safe to swim in and fish in. Excluding small municipalities from regulation would be contrary to federal and state law and would pollute our water. Putting small municipalities beyond the reach of law is the wrong thing to do.

Long Island Sound and our rivers, streams, and lakes are important resources that improve our health, our quality of life, our economy, and the legacy we leave for our children. Each generation of the Clean Water Act has been met with fierce resistance and claims that the money we are spending is not worth it. That has been proven wrong time and time again: many of the toxic rivers of the 1970s are now trout fisheries and bald eagle habitat. There is no reason to change course now.

Respectfully,
Joanna Erikson, MPH
Quarry Dock Road
Branford CT 06405