

POTOMAC **RIVERKEEPER***NETWORK

The Potomac Riverkeeper Network (PRKN) is a non-profit organization that has been stopping pollution and restoring clean water in the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers and their tributaries through community engagement, advocacy, and enforcement for the past 20 years. The Potomac Riverkeeper Network's programming is informed by the work of its three Riverkeepers who monitor pollution in the Upper Potomac, Lower Potomac, and Shenandoah Rivers. The work PRKN does to defend clean water is incredibly important, with its work encompassing 14,700 square miles of the Potomac River Watershed that spans over 4 states (MD, PA, WV, VA) and DC, and benefits the over 6 million people who live within the watershed.

The Potomac Riverkeeper Network believes access to clean, safe water is a right, and by holding polluters accountable and spearheading public awareness campaigns, it has been able to make great strides towards a cleaner, pollution-free Potomac. In the past two years alone, PRKN has been able to develop and expand its Citizen Scientist Water Quality Monitoring Program to 14 public access sites, launch the Swimmable Potomac Campaign, launch the Respect the Shenandoah Campaign, launch the 50 Million Mussels Project, launch the Trash-Free Potomac Campaign, spearhead opposition for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, which ultimately led to the cancellation of the project and, hold giant corporate polluters such as Dominion Power accountable for illegal dumping of toxic pollutants into the river.

All of this work relies heavily on PRKN's ever-expanding network of dedicated volunteers. The Citizen Science Water Quality Monitoring Program, Pollution Rapid Response Team, and River Clean-Ups all rely on volunteer efforts to succeed. We anticipate needing volunteers for all of these efforts in 2021. If you are interested in considering volunteering, please email volunteer@prknetwork.org and consider signing up for PRKN's monthly e-newsletter to stay up-to-date on all the upcoming events and work. If you want to support PRKN's work, but don't have the time to volunteer, you can still do your part to protect the Potomac and support PRKN by donating or becoming a member!!