Dear Friends:

Our streams are dying while the builder lobby works to get waivers, exemptions and special treatment for its pet projects.

In the past month, Patuxent Riverkeeper Fred Tutman has been working long hours to secure the strongest possible stormwater regulations for Maryland, in the face of well-funded opposition from the development/builder community. The struggle has been drawn-out and often unpleasant, but because of Fred's determination and coalition-building skills, Maryland has a second chance at implementing rigorous rules that will curb stormwater runoff—a key polluter of the Patuxent and other rivers in the Chesapeake Bay area.

Special thanks go to Fred Tutman who has been an inspiration to us all,...

his more than full time work on this issue has made it possible for the rest of us to participate. Because of Fred, we can get the information the rest of us need to be effective.....Senator Joseph Tydings

Patuxent Riverkeeper has been actively involved with this issue for many years. Most recently, we:

- crafted much of the original legislation known as the Stormwater Management Act of 2007, which requires developers to implement site design practices that keep stormwater runoff on the land, and not in our streams.
- created a strong alliance amongst active former members of the U.S. Senate, the Maryland State Senate and sitting members of the legislature
- fought the introduction of legislation (HB1125, aka The Holmes Bill) that would add to our estimated statewide $12 billion backlog in unmet stream restoration costs.
- objected to closed-door deals that weakened the Act and opened the door to continued development
- worked with a statewide coalition and other partners to enforce existing regulations and strengthen new laws.
- educated the public and legislators about the true nature of these new rollbacks, which have been erroneously reported as being benign. These claims are false!

Although much of this battle is being fought in the halls of the State House, you can help! You can contact your state senator and tell them to vote against the dirty water bills. And you can donate today to support Patuxent Riverkeeper's continued fight for clean water and sensible development in Maryland. Your donation of $50, $100, or more will enable us to continue to fight for strong protections for our local waters.

Please give generously because your contribution will make a difference for our rivers for decades to come.

Sincerely,

Larry Silverman, President,  
and the Board of Directors  
Patuxent Riverkeeper

Donate Today!