



## Coalition Partners

Aquidneck Land Trust  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island  
Clean Water Action  
Conservation Law Foundation  
Environment Council of Rhode Island  
Environment Rhode Island  
Grow Smart Rhode Island  
Narragansett Bay Estuary Program  
Narrow River Preservation Association  
Rhode Island Land Trust Council  
Rhode Island Natural History Survey  
Sierra Club Rhode Island Chapter  
Save The Bay  
The Nature Conservancy  
Trust for Public Land  
Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association

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Honorable Speaker William J. Murphy  
Honorable Majority Leader Gordon D. Fox  
Honorable Minority Leader Robert A. Watson  
Rhode Island State House  
Providence, RI 02903

May 20, 2009

Dear Speaker William J. Murphy,  
Majority Leader Gordon D. Fox, and  
Minority Leader Robert A. Watson:

We are writing on behalf of our respective organizations and as members of the Coalition for Water Security to express our strong support for the Water Use and Efficiency Act. The bill has been passed by the Senate and now heads to the House of Representatives. The Water Use and Efficiency Act puts in place key strategies for addressing the critical water supply issues facing our state.

### The Water Use and Efficiency Act:

- Promotes efficiency and conservation
- Capitalizes on the competitive edge that Rhode Island's ample water supply could provide
- Protects our natural resources by maintaining adequate water in our rivers and streams, and
- Improves the structure and operation of the Water Resources Board

This legislation is an outgrowth of the House and Senate's joint work on water issues over the past three years and has roots in House legislation first offered in 2006. This bill is a timely one in our current economic climate. If Rhode Island is to bounce back effectively from our current downturn and capitalize on our vast untapped potential, we must put into place the management framework to utilize our water wisely. We strongly urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

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Eugenia Marks  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island

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Sheila Dormody  
Clean Water Action

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Scott Wolf  
Grow Smart Rhode Island

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Meg Kerr  
Narragansett Bay Estuary Program

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Jane Austin  
Save The Bay

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Harold Ward  
Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association

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Chip Young  
CWS Communications Director