

Support Your Constitutional Right to a Healthy Environment in Delaware

Delaware's system of environmental laws have provided important protections to our water, air and communities, improved public health, supported good jobs and provided for a solid economy. While we have worked to protect the health and the environment, **communities across our state continue to be unfairly harmed by environmental degradation.**

- Sea level rise is impacting the health and safety of coastal communities;
- Drinking water in numerous communities is contaminated. Perfluorinated compounds in the drinking water in the Town of Blades and the City of New Castle, volatile organic compounds in the City of Newark and Hockessin, and nitrates in Millsboro and throughout Sussex County are examples of the recent drinking water contamination issues that have threatened the health of Delawareans;
- Air quality impacts public health statewide, ozone levels continue to exceed National Ambient Air Quality Standards, and Delaware's Air Quality Index too often Code Red "unhealthy" or Code Orange "unhealthy for sensitive groups";
- Air pollution is especially a concern in fence-line communities neighboring industrial sites including Croda's Atlas Point, the Delaware City Refinery, Indian River Power Plant, Honeywell in Claymont, BASF in Newport, Johnson Controls in Middletown, Calpine in Dover, Mountaire in Millsboro, Allen Harim in Harbeson, and the other facilities listed on Delaware's Toxics Release Inventory;
- Contaminated sites with dangerous toxins are in need of clean up statewide;
- Native plant and animal species are being lost at an "alarming rate;"

We all depend upon clean water, clean air and a healthy environment to support and sustain our healthy lives and our healthy economy. Our access to clean air, clean water and a healthy environment should be protected with the same legal strength that we protect the other political, civil, property and human rights we hold dear.

We, the undersigned, support the passage of an Amendment to Article I of the Delaware State Constitution, the Bill of Rights, by adding a new section 22 that will read as follows:

The people of Delaware have an inherent, indefeasible and inalienable right to a clean and healthy environment, including water, air, soil, flora, fauna, ecosystems, and climate, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural, scenic and healthful qualities of the environment. The State shall not infringe upon these rights, by action or inaction. The State's natural resources are the common property of all the people, including both present and future generations. The State, including all branches, agencies and political subdivisions, shall serve as trustee of the State' natural resources and shall conserve, protect, and maintain these resources for the benefit of all its people. This provision and the rights stated herein are self-executing and on par with other protected inalienable rights.

Respectfully,

Signature _____ Print Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____ Phone (optional) _____

Signature _____ Print Name _____

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***Find more information at**

www.DEGreenAmendment.org

***Please mail or email your completed petitions to:**

Green Amendments For The Generations

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