Conserving clean water, natural places and working lands through cooperation, education and research.

Create a basin-wide community dedicated to working together.
Identify and protect areas deemed critical for water quality and identify the practices that best contribute to maintaining water quality.
Encourage cross-boundary collaboration by facilitating communication, information sharing, and partnerships.
Act as a regional information source for assembling educational outreach and scientific research materials to enhance the collective knowledge base and support objective decision making.
Increase public awareness of the status and trends of the region’s economy, community, and environment through the use of consistent data and information sharing.
Develop a political will to bring funding to the region and seek out sources of conservation and economic development funds.
Strengthen stakeholder capacity to address key issues.
Collaborate to incubate and promote initiatives that support and further the goals of Common Waters.
Document project successes and failures to better assist other communities.

From the headwaters to the Bay, the Delaware River is a tremendous resource.

Supplying an estimated 16.2 million people >5% of the US population with pure drinking water.

Contributing $25 billion to the economy annually.

Providing an estimated $683 billion in ecosystem services.

Working together makes sense and helps protect our common waters.

If you’re interested in getting involved email partners@commonwatersfund.org

MARYLAND

NEW YORK

PENNSYLVANIA

NEW JERSEY

DELAWARE

NYC

ENVIRONMENTALLY CERTIFIED PAPER, SOY INK

www.commonwatersfund.org/partners
partners@commonwatersfund.org
The mission of Common Waters is to conserve clean water, natural places, and working lands through cooperation, scientific research, education, and technical assistance by and for the stakeholders of the region.

The partnership strives to facilitate information sharing through joint publications and shared web-delivery systems and establishing a communications network across municipal, county, state, and federal boundaries via regular forums and cooperative research projects.

Successfully launched the Common Waters Fund, a partnership-based program that mapped priority forest areas in the Upper Delaware, identified best management practices for forest stewardship, and created a funding mechanism for private forest landowners (www.commonwatersfund.org). Ongoing since February 2011.

Offered regular and on-going professional assistance to landowners within the Delaware River Basin. Ongoing since 2010.


Created the Atlas of the Upper Delaware Region that highlights the region’s unique natural and cultural characteristics as well as the forces of change. 2009.

Created the Common Waters Land Conservation Prioritization Model, to assess the aquatic health of the Upper Delaware Watershed for the conservation of both ecological and drinking water resources. 2009.

Hosted a forum focusing a community dialogue on the importance of the Delaware River as a common regional resource. October 2009.


The Delaware River is a unique resource. From the forests in its headwaters to its outlet into the Atlantic Ocean, it is a critical resource to rural, suburban, and urban communities in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Delaware.

The river provides $25 billion to the economy annually providing clean water for agriculture, food production, electricity, breweries, pharmaceutical companies, water utilities, and recreational activities, such as white-water canoeing and kayaking, ski areas, and golf courses. The fresh waters of the Delaware keep salt water out of the wells in downstream cities like Philadelphia, Camden, and Trenton and provide clean drinking water supplies to some 16.2 million people.

With the objective of facilitating a proactive stance on maintaining this vital resource, Common Waters was formed in 2007. Through this partnership, regional stakeholders are leveraging their knowledge and networks to encourage cross-boundary collaboration, communication, and joint problem solving. Common Waters is creating a basin-wide community dedicated to working together.

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