



Step toward protecting Arizona's water supply

Action to conserve our most precious resource

Environment Arizona helped take another step forward in our campaign to protect our water, as we worked to show widespread support for stopping new pollution from endangering our water supply.

Water is too precious to waste here in Arizona—we squander our limited resources every time we allow polluters to dump into our waterways. As our population continues to bloom, we can't afford to waste a drop.

Pollution, sewage and supply

Over the last six years, Arizona's population has grown by 1 million people—but loopholes allow developers to increase pollution in the water supply for 800,000 Arizonans. With population still on the rise and other new threats looming on the horizon, we cannot wait another year to strengthen protections and improve restoration efforts for Arizona's water supply.

This year we have a chance to protect our waterways. The EPA is considering steps that would expand protection for waterways, helping make sure that all our water is fit to drink.

Opportunities like this don't come along often, so we launched a nationwide effort to push our leaders in Washington, D.C., to make the right choice.

From your door to Congress

To ramp up support this summer, our citizen outreach team went door to door in communities across the state,



Verina and Jay Pater*

▲ Havasu Falls

speaking to thousands of people. Our staff also wrote and released a report, "Courting Disaster: How the Supreme Court Has Broken the Clean Water Act and Why Congress Must Fix It," highlighting the steps needed to protect our drinking water.

Over the coming months, we'll be using the surge of grassroots momentum we've built to convince U.S. EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson to protect our water by ensuring strong enforcement of existing clean water laws and issuing new protections for our waters from stormwater pollution.



Michael Woodruff*

more online

◀ Green Heron

Links to additional content are posted in the online version of the newsletter: www.EnvironmentArizona.org/newsletter/fall10



To our members

Arizona faces some unique threats.

Our growing population puts stress on our water supply, and increases the need to start thinking about new sources of energy.

Arizona is too beautiful to take for granted. Imagine if we let uranium miners spoil the Grand Canyon, or developers spoil our limited water supply with pollution due to poor planning.

But with every Arizonan I talk to, I grow more and more confident.

So many of us are on the same page—we want to preserve our incredible natural beauty and power our future with renewable resources like solar power.

And together, we can reach the vision of the future we all share.

Thanks for your support.

David Rogers
For Environment Arizona

Recent action

400,000 strong against new offshore drilling

In the wake of the Gulf oil spill, Environment Arizona and others helped rally more than 400,000 people to speak out against expanded offshore drilling.

The impacts of America's dependence on oil became tragically apparent when BP's Deepwater Horizon drill rig exploded in April, gushing more than 120 million gallons of oil into the Gulf. The spill devastated wildlife, coastal marshes and the people who depend on the Gulf for their livelihood—and the aftershocks will be felt for years.

The surest way to prevent a catastrophe like this from happening again is to better regulate existing drilling, and ban drilling in new areas. In June, Environment Arizona and our allies submitted more than 400,000 petition signatures asking President Obama to stop the rush to expand offshore drilling.

Thousands join our call for America's Great Outdoors

Environment America, our national federation, launched a campaign to protect and revitalize our national park system, bringing hundreds of thousands of people together to speak out for our natural heritage.

While national parks are hailed as "America's best idea," many of them are threatened by industrial pollution, including Grand Canyon National Park. One of the world's most striking natural vistas, it's hard to imagine the Grand Canyon compromised by pollution. Yet nearby uranium miners could spoil its pristine environment and pollute its waters.

This summer, President Obama launched the America's Great Outdoors Initiative to strengthen protections for America's best-loved national parks. As part of the initiative, we are urging Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to increase protections for our national parks by engaging citizens who care about our parks and lobbying the administration to take action.



How do you want to be remembered?

You can be remembered as someone who cared enough to keep up the fight for a cleaner, greener, healthier future by making a bequest to Environment Arizona.

For information, call: 1-800-841-7299, or e-mail PlannedGiving@EnvironmentArizona.org.



▲ Grand Canyon National Park

After the spill, a plan to end America's oil addiction

Kris King

The United States just suffered the greatest environmental disaster in our history. At least 120 million gallons of oil poured into the Gulf after BP's Deepwater Horizon drill rig exploded on April 20—the equivalent of more than 10 Exxon Valdez spills.

Oil contaminated 580 miles of coastline from Texas to Florida, and the spill has already proved catastrophic for local wildlife—from oil-soaked pelicans to dolphins choking on fumes, to the sea turtles who nest in the Gulf's warm waters. It will also be catastrophic for shrimpers, fishermen, and the men and women who work in the Gulf's \$20 billion tourism industry, all of whom now face a difficult and uncertain future. It may take decades for the ecology and the economy of the Gulf Coast to recover.

As we begin the long process of cleaning up the spill, compensating those affected and rebuilding the Gulf Coast, we must ensure that a crisis of this magnitude never happens again. We have known for decades that America's dependence on oil is environmentally and economically unsustainable. Beyond the threat of catastrophe, our addiction to oil pollutes our air, endangers our climate, enriches our enemies and robs our economy of billions of dollars every day.

We can get off oil permanently

Environment Arizona is joining our national federation, Environment America, to launch a major program to free America from our dependence on oil. We want American-made electric cars instead of more air pollution, walkable communities and public transit instead of price shock at the pump, and clean electricity instead of oil spills. The result will be more jobs, less pollution, improved public health and thousands of dollars in savings for Arizona families.

Environment Arizona is bringing together a coalition of environmental groups, public health organizations, consumer

advocates and national security groups to build a sustained campaign to do our part to end America's addiction to oil. Even with all this support, getting off oil will be no simple task. There is no easy solution, no silver-bullet legislation. It will require a sustained commitment from supporters and activists to change policy at every level of government, from the local zoning board to the President of the United States.

Right now, we are fighting to ensure that any climate or energy bill passed by Congress includes strong policies to reduce oil dependence. Sen. Jeff Merkley of Oregon recently proposed visionary legislation that could reduce our oil consumption by over 40 percent by 2030 through increased fuel efficiency, support for electric vehicles, and regulatory reform to ensure our tax dollars support public transit and smart growth instead of highways and sprawl.

We are calling on the Senate to pass Sen. Merkley's oil savings plan. Visit our website to write your member of Congress and express your support for ending America's addiction to oil.



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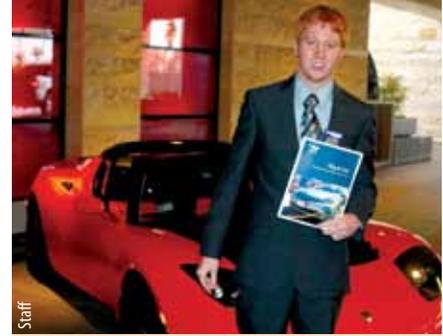


Gumbo for the Gulf

Anthony Bourdain, author and chef, promotes our Gumbo for the Gulf events to eat well and raise money for the Gulf oil disaster.

Watch the video:

www.youtube.com/user/EnvironmentAmerica



Next step on clean cars

The BP oil spill in the Gulf demonstrated in heartbreaking terms why we need to move away from oil as quickly as possible. That's why Environment Arizona is working to set aggressive new standards requiring cars and trucks to go farther on a gallon of gas.

In May, President Obama announced historic new clean car standards, which Environment Arizona and our national federation helped to secure. These new rules are expected to cut gasoline consumption by more than 11 billion gallons per year in 2016, nearly as much as all the vehicles in Texas use annually. This is a great start, but not nearly enough—the standards are slated to expire in 2016.

The disaster in the Gulf demands that we go further after the current standards expire, so Environment Arizona is calling for even stronger rules requiring the average car and light truck to travel 60 miles on a gallon of gas by 2025. We know that car companies have the technological know-how to make it happen, so we're working to convince the Obama administration to make this goal a reality. As our campaign kicks off, we'll collect thousands of public comments and mobilize support from leaders within the national security community and from areas impacted by the Gulf oil spill.



Download our report on the benefits of cleaner fuels.

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Environment Arizona

Our mission

We all want clean air, clean water and open spaces. But it takes independent research and tough-minded advocacy to win concrete results for our environment, especially when powerful interests stand in the way of environmental progress.

That's the idea behind Environment Arizona. We focus exclusively on protecting Arizona's air, water and open spaces. We speak out and take action at the local, state and national levels to improve the quality of our environment and our lives.

Defeating a handout for Big Oil

As oil flowed into the Gulf of Mexico in June, Sens. Jon Kyl and John McCain voted for a binding resolution to increase America's dependence on oil and block Clean Air Act rules. Environment Arizona was profoundly disappointed by their votes, especially since both senators have long supported the Clean Air Act. Fortunately, the U.S. Senate ultimately defeated the measure.

According to our analysis, by 2016 the resolution would have increased Arizona's dependence on oil by at least 9 million gallons and cost Arizonans \$26 million at the gas pump.

Environment Arizona worked to convince the senators to vote against the oil-industry-sponsored resolution. After they voted for it, we worked to make sure we held our senators accountable for their votes.



◀ *We worked to defeat a measure in the Senate that would have increased Arizona's dependence on oil by at least 9 million gallons, and would have cost us \$26 million at the pump.*