



Safeguard Our Environment

Too many of our cornerstone environmental laws are at risk of being rolled back. In the face of political division and threats to our essential environmental protections, we're drawing a line in the sand for clean air, clean energy, clean and abundant water, and resilient lands by protecting the environmental and public health progress we've made together over the years. We need to safeguard those gains and pave the way for continued progress today and into the future.

The Safeguard Our Environment priority focuses on protecting critical laws and investments that improve public health, create green jobs, and make Washington a great place to live, work, and play. The priority has four components:

Clean Air

An estimated 600,000 people in Washington have asthma, which is among the highest in the nation. Native and low-income communities are the most at risk. Air pollutants produce dangerous substances that harm neighborhoods and waterways. State leaders must protect existing authority and funding resources to continue to deal with the many threats posed by air pollution.



CLEAN AIR

Clean Energy

Clean energy development protects our environment and economy. This has resulted in thousands of good, local jobs and saved billions on power bills over the past two decades. Washington's clean energy heritage and our leadership in clean tech innovation attract business and a talented workforce. Our state's voter-approved clean energy law, Initiative 937, is responsible for increasing clean energy generation and stimulating significant energy efficiency achievements that reduce the monthly utility bills of households and businesses across the state. The law's renewable energy standards support nearly 150 businesses and more than 4,500 local, family-wage jobs throughout Washington, while current efficiency investments are creating more than 4,660 direct and indirect jobs a year.



CLEAN ENERGY

Clean and Abundant Water

Water is a precious and finite resource that communities depend on for drinking, fishing, recreation, and many other important services. Unfortunately, our waters are contaminated everyday with a wide range of harmful pollutants, and drought and climate change threaten water supplies for fish and people. Ensuring funding and policies that clean up toxic sites, prevent pollution at its source, and protect instream flows are essential in the face of a state funding crisis and other threats. We also have opportunities this session to adopt efficiency measures that reduce water and energy use so we can waste less of these precious resources.



CLEAN & ABUNDANT WATER

Healthy Lands

The beautiful natural environment in Washington is part of our cultural identity and is an asset that provides significant benefits. Outdoor recreation alone generates \$20 billion in economic activity in Washington and supports 200,000 jobs. The state has routinely invested in protecting and restoring habitat, promoting recreation access, and working with nature to recover after disasters such as the record wildfires of 2015.



HEALTHY LANDS

Questions?

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ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES COALITION

A network of over 20 leading environmental groups in Washington state that comes together to advance selected priorities in the state Legislature.