

## Just the Facts

Whether you live in a city, suburb or rural community, your drinking water starts in nature. New Jersey residents get their drinking water from many sources including reservoirs, underground aquifers, streams and rivers. Without protection, the places where we get drinking water could be built upon and paved over, or contaminated by pollutants including fertilizers, pet waste or industrial uses such as gas stations. Governor Christie must release a current Water Supply Master Plan, so communities across the state have the tools they need to ensure a safe and plentiful water supply.

For More on Major Watershed Areas:

- [Pinelands](#)
- [Highlands](#)
- [Delaware Bayshore](#)

## What is the Water Supply Master Plan?

“The Water Supply Master Plan, as a policy and strategy document, sets forth major initiatives required to ensure that sufficient quantities of water supplies are available to all parts of the State into the foreseeable future at the highest possible quality and for a reasonable cost.” - NJ DEP 1996 Water Supply Master Plan

## Why is it important?

Good planning and good policy are key to protecting our drinking water supplies, but New Jersey has fallen behind. The State must ensure that there’s enough clean water to meet all of our future needs by releasing the Water Supply Master Plan, strengthening regulations, and enforcing its rules.

Unfortunately for New Jersey residents, our current Water Supply Master Plan has been out of date for 15 years and hasn’t kept up with increasing threats to our drinking water. Some communities in New Jersey are already feeling the impact of water crises that have arisen due in part to a lack of an updated Water Supply Master Plan and good regulations.

From water shortages to saltwater intrusion, these challenges are already at our doorstep. That is why it’s time for Governor Christie to release the Water Supply Master Plan.



**PINELANDS PRESERVATION ALLIANCE**  
*Protecting and Exploring New Jersey's Pine Barrens*

