



# NOVEMBER UPDATE

1. Immediate Legislative Action Needed
2. Wells Victory
3. Water Justice Art Show

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IMMEDIATE ACTION: CONTACT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## **SUPPORT LR 2282: AN ACT TO PROHIBIT SIGNIFICANT GROUNDWATER WELL DEVELOPMENT ON PUBLIC LANDS**

Rural Maine communities continue to feel the pressure of the global water crisis as more and more towns are approached by multinational companies about their groundwater resources. Nestle, in particular, continues to prospect for future mines throughout our state. Most recently, they attempted to develop a well head on public land managed by Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW) and on Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Wells Water District land. These developments have been stopped by community-wide, non-partisan grassroots organizing efforts in York County.

Defending Water for Life is working on having a few pieces of legislation address this issue in the next legislative session. Public land and tax payer dollars should not subsidize multinational economic interests.

Representative Benjamin Pratt (Eddington) has proposed legislation that would address this issue. LR 2282 would prohibit significant groundwater well development on public lands. Unfortunately, only Representative Pingree and Representative Berry voted in favor of this initiative when the Legislative Council met in October.

Representative Pratt has appealed the decision, and we need you to show your support before the Council reconvenes later this week. We are only four votes shy of getting this bill into committee for the 2010 Legislative Session.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATORS AND EXPRESS YOUR SUPPORT FOR LR 2282 TODAY**

Representative John Piotti 207-287-1430 <a href="mailto:piotti@uninets.net">piotti@uninets.net</a>	Representative Josh Tardy 207-287-4469 <a href="mailto:tardylaw@roadrunner.com">tardylaw@roadrunner.com</a>
Senator Libby Mitchell 207-287-1430 <a href="mailto:SenLibby.Mitchell@legislature.maine.gov">SenLibby.Mitchell@legislature.maine.gov</a>	Representative Philip Curtis 207-287-4469 <a href="mailto:pdcurtis2@hotmail.com">pdcurtis2@hotmail.com</a>
Senator Philip Bartlett 207-287-1515 <a href="mailto:SenPhilip.Bartlett@legislature.maine.gov">SenPhilip.Bartlett@legislature.maine.gov</a>	Senator Kevin Raye 207-287-1505 <a href="mailto:senatorraye@wwsisp.com">senatorraye@wwsisp.com</a>
Senator Lisa Marrache 207-287-1515 <a href="mailto:SenLisa.Marrache@legislature.maine.gov">SenLisa.Marrache@legislature.maine.gov</a>	Senator Jon Courtney 207-287-1505 <a href="mailto:joncourtney@metrocast.net">joncourtney@metrocast.net</a>

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## Wells Citizens Vote Down Extraction Ordinance

- Despite Nestle spending unknown amounts of on radio, newspaper and television advertising
- Despite Nestle sending out not one but two mailings with the incorrect polling times
- Despite Nestle's telemarketers and canvassers lying to Wells residents
- Despite Nestle's attorney's participating in the ordinance writing process

The Citizens of Wells last night sent a clear mandate to the multinational corporation that they are not wanted in their town. The community rejected the ordinance by a 69.5% measure....with 3,194 rejecting the ordinance compared to 1,420 votes in favor.

Defending Water for Life and the Water Allies Network salutes the tremendous organizing effort of the residents in the Branch Brook Aquifer to protect their communities water!

Our ripples are beginning to make waves!

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## The Water is Ours, Dammit

a water justice art exhibition

WHO: Defending Water for Life in Maine is hosting art from throughout the United States and World! Including renown artists: Swoon, Robert Shetterly, Rigo 23, Natasha Mayers, Lorie Park, Brian Tripp, Climbing PoeTree, Jimmy Descantes and the Beehive Collective as well, artists from the communities where Nestle is actively mining water for their bottled water operations.

WHAT: The Water is Ours, Dammit! A Water Justice Art Exhibition

WHERE: Meg Perry Center, 644 Congress, Portland, Maine

WHEN: First Friday Artwalk. November 6th, 5-8 pm

WHY: Defending Water for Life is developing an art exhibition to examine, confront and change the multiple facets of the world water crisis. From widespread pollution to water inequity in the Global South; mega-dams, bottled water and privatization.....our global community faces major challenges to meet the our planet's water needs. Please come see art of our friends, students, artists, teachers, workers, children and elders. This is a collective initiative to connect our local, national

and global water justice struggles. Through multiple mediums we can manifest our dreams and visions of what a world of water justice looks like.

Lets Change Things Together!