

## ARA's Watershed Leadership Conference: Last day for early bird registration!

### Sessions of particular interest to your board members...

#### An Entire Track Devoted to Stormwater!!!

With some of the best minds in the business- 7 different speakers! Attend the stormwater sessions and learn how your group can become trained to "Get the Dirt Out" and help combat Alabama's #1 pollutant—Dirt.

**NEW!** "What's a Database Worth - And How do We Choose One?"-with Lead Green's Baird Straughan

### Thank you to our Grassroots Sponsors!

Alabama Scenic River Trail, Black Warrior Riverkeeper, Choctawhatchee Riverkeeper, Conecuh-Sepulga Watershed Alliance, Conservation Southeast, Friends of Big Canoe Creek, Friends of Chewacla and Uphabee Watershed, Friends of Shades Creek, Huntsville Canoe Club, Mobile Baykeeper, Save Our Saugahatchee, and Weeks Bay Foundation, Inc.

*(It's not too late to sponsor a session **and** renew your membership in the Rivers Alliance at the same time!)*

### ACTION ALERT at the National Level:

## Water Quality Investment Act of 2009 BEING DEBATED ON U.S. HOUSE FLOOR NOW!



## Immediate Action Needed By ALL Clean Water Network Members!

The U.S. House of Representatives is currently debating H.R. 1262, the Water Quality Investment Act of 2009. Several amendments are being offered during the floor debate today, including the Manager's Amendment.

The Water Quality Investment Act, as reported by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, significantly enhances the nation's commitment to clean water. The bill helps close the approximately \$3.2 billion to \$11.1 billion annual gap that exists between wastewater infrastructure needs and current funding. It also protects public health by requiring notification of sewer overflows and invests \$150 million a year for the Great Lakes Legacy Act, which is needed to accelerate the cleanup of toxic hot spots in the Great Lakes.

We urge you to call your U.S. Representative's office NOW to urge her/him to support the bill. We also urge you to tell your Representative to support efforts to make H.R. 1262 even better. In particular, the following amendments would improve the bill in key ways:

1. **Amendment 1**/Chairman Oberstar (MN): This amendment would make a variety of improvements to the bill to encourage the use of "green infrastructure" to reduce stormwater and sewage pollution. It would also require EPA to conduct a study on pharmaceuticals and personal care products in U.S. waters.
2. **Amendment 6**/Congressman Polis (CO): This amendment would make municipality-wide stormwater management planning eligible for wet weather watershed pilot projects.
3. **Amendment 8**/Congresswoman Dahlkemper (PA): This provision would require state revolving fund recipients to evaluate and implement water and energy conservation efforts.
4. **Amendment 10**/Congressman Driehaus (OH): This would increase the amount of funding authorized for combined sewer overflow control grants.

If you do not have your U.S. Representative's direct office number, you can call the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 and ask to be connected.

Thanks so much for your help on this important piece of legislation.

*Natalie Roy*

*Clean Water Network*