



## River pollution and economic impacts WORKSHEET 1

**Time available:** 30 min

**Location:** in the classroom

According to the pictures, make a discussion how the pollution affects the economy.

# WHY #CleanWaterRules

**Clean water upstream means cleaner water downstream.**  
Our Clean Water Rule protects the streams and wetlands that feed our rivers, lakes, bays and coastal waters. These waters are critical for agriculture, healthy communities, our economy and our way of life.

**60 % of stream miles in the U.S. only flow seasonally or after rain.**

**Streams and wetlands filter pollution, reduce flooding and give fish and wildlife a place to live.**

**One-third of threatened and endangered species live only in wetlands.**

**Farms depend on clean water for irrigation, crops and livestock.**

**Normal farming and ranching activities – like planting, harvesting and moving livestock – won't be affected by the Clean Water Rule.**

**1 in 3 Americans get drinking water from seasonal and rain-dependent streams.**

**Tourism, fishing, recreation, energy production, manufacturing and other industries that depend on clean water add billions of dollars to our economy every year.**

**19 million people per year go paddling, spending \$86 billion on gear and trips.**

**Fishing adds \$48 billion to the economy every year, and supports nearly a million jobs.**

**EPA** [www.epa.gov/cleanwaterrule](http://www.epa.gov/cleanwaterrule)



Cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers and streams makes environmental and economic sense. Economists say a saved Bay is worth nearly **\$130 billion**—an increase of **\$22 Billion per year** for generations.

Our house will be worth more.

Clean waters will attract more recreation.

Our farms and waters will be more productive.

**CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION**  
Saving a National Treasure

Image source: [https://cbf.typepad.com/chesapeake\\_bay\\_foundation/2014/11/a-better-environment-is-a-proven-path-to-a-better-economy.html](https://cbf.typepad.com/chesapeake_bay_foundation/2014/11/a-better-environment-is-a-proven-path-to-a-better-economy.html)

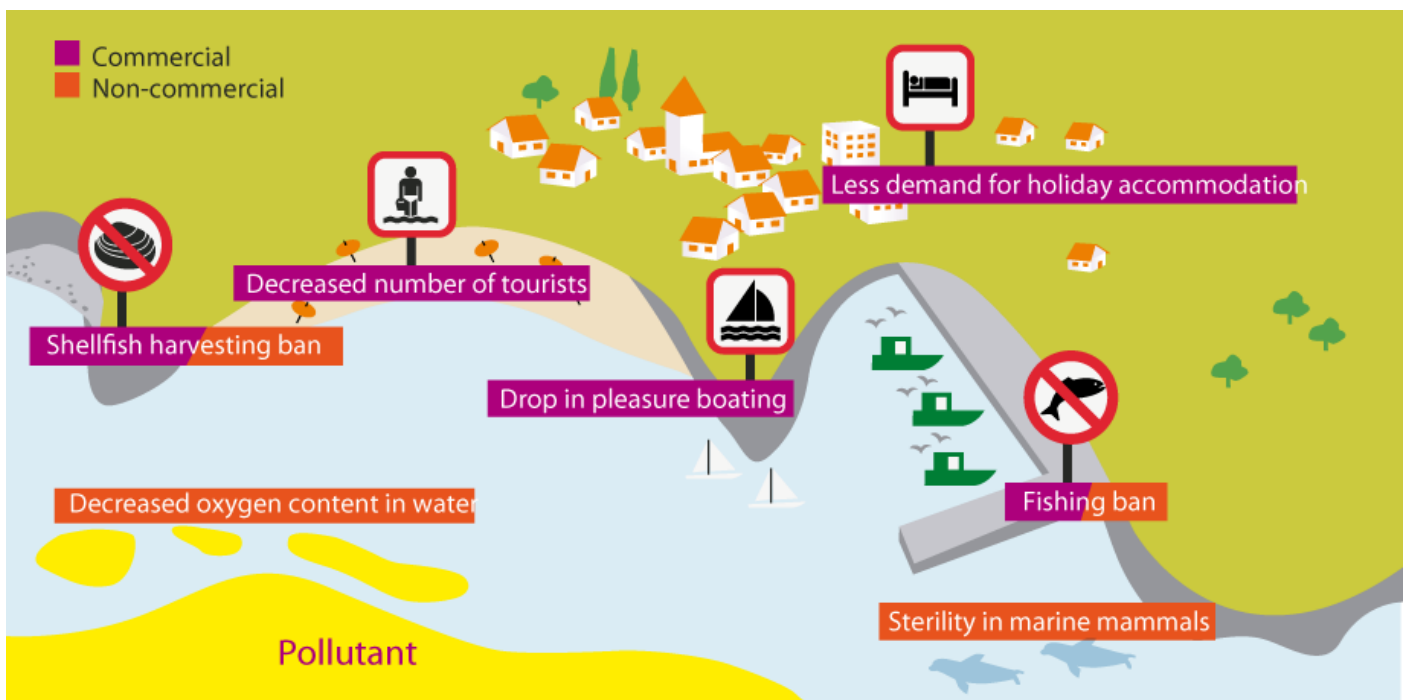


Image source: <https://www.chemical-pollution.com/en/impact/economic-impact.php>



## River pollution and economic impacts WORKSHEET 2

**Time available:** 30 min

**Location:** by the river

*“Have you noticed if there are garbage and other wastes in the river in your area?”*

*“Do you think they are having financial consequences?”*

TYPE OF GARBAGE & WASTE	FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES



*“What is the effect of the river pollution on the local economy? How would it be without?”*

<b>EFFECT ON LOCAL ECONOMY</b>	<b>HOW WOULD IT BE WITHOUT</b>



## River pollution and economic impacts WORKSHEET 3

**Time available:** 30 min

**Location:** in the classroom, group-work

*“How would you investigate the economic effects of the river pollution?”*

Group activity. Decide where on the river and how you would investigate the economic effects **of the pollution** of the river of your town. Give an explanation to your decisions and list the materials you will need.

RIVER AREA	TYPE OF INVESTIGATION / MATERIALS



## River pollution and economic impacts WORKSHEET 4

**Time available:** 2 hours

**Location:** by the river

Use this worksheet during the excursion by the river, followed by fieldwork

<i>Type of pollution</i>	<i>Number of observations</i>	<i>Type of economic activity being affected</i>	<i>Number of observations</i>
Plastic		Fisheries	
Glass		Tourism	
Metal		Industry	
Odor Embalmmnt		Trade	
Water color change			
Odors			



<i>Type of economic activity being affected</i>	Economic impact	<i>Type of economic activity being affected</i>	Economic impact
Fisheries		Industry	
Tourism		Trade	

