

**Proclamation 10480 of October 17, 2022****50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

Fifty years ago, the Congress passed the Clean Water Act of 1972, revolutionizing America's responsibility to protect and restore the vital waterways that sustain our communities, our economy, and our ecosystems.

Before this landmark legislation, America's waters were in crisis, often flooded and even on fire with toxic pollution and cancer-causing contaminants. Industrial waste and sewage threatened our drinking water, and wetlands disappeared at an alarming rate. The Clean Water Act met these challenges head-on, setting and enforcing national water quality standards, restricting pollution, and investing in wastewater treatment and better wetlands management.

Five decades later, our Nation's waters are dramatically cleaner. Once dead rivers and lakes are now flourishing with wildlife. People have returned to boat, fish, and swim. Sacred waters that Tribal Nations have relied on for generations are clean again. This is a testament to the tireless partnerships that the Environmental Protection Agency has forged with State, local, and Tribal governments. It is a powerful tribute not only to the activists who first sounded the alarm, built a movement, and fought to pass this powerful law but also to the Americans everywhere who have since done so much to help enforce it, safeguarding our waterways and taking on polluters in court.

Today, we still face serious threats to clean water—from climate change-driven droughts and rising sea levels to long-standing environmental injustices that have left too many communities without safe drinking water. That is why my Administration restored Federal protections to hundreds of thousands of streams, wetlands, and waterways and is working across the Federal Government to combat pollution from deadly per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Our historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes our Nation's biggest-ever investment in water, clearing legacy pollution, helping replace lead pipes across the country, and building more resilient infrastructure so that every child in America can turn on the faucet at home or school for safe drinking water. The Inflation Reduction Act takes America's most aggressive climate action ever, helping to protect the world's waterways long into the future.

As we celebrate the anniversary of this law, my Administration is more committed than ever to continuing its legacy, providing access to safe water, and restoring a healthier planet. The Clean Water Act is a powerful reminder of Americans' ability to make change for the better when we work together.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2022, as the 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act. I call upon all Americans to observe this milestone, recognize the significant contribution the Clean Water Act has made to restoring our Nation's waters, consider the crucial role

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**Title 3—The President**

clean water plays in each of our lives, and recommit to protecting our shared water resources.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

**Proclamation 10481 of October 21, 2022**

**United Nations Day, 2022**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

On United Nations Day, we celebrate this institution and its enduring commitment to advancing peace, protecting human rights, and promoting comity between nations and among the broader international community. Since its founding, the United Nations has shown that countries with different histories yet shared purpose can join together to bend the arc of history toward a freer and more just world.

In the past year, United Nations member states have faced daunting challenges: growing food insecurity; the persistent challenge of COVID-19 alongside additional infectious disease outbreaks; inflation; and record heat, floods, and droughts—all of which have threatened lives and livelihoods. In addition, the consequences of Russia’s brazen war and attempts to annex Ukrainian territory in violation of international law have reverberated across the globe—not only exacerbating food and refugee crises but also imperiling the very foundation of a stable international rules-based order, for which the United Nations Charter is the cornerstone.

In the face of great upheaval, the United Nations has a critical role to play—defending the Charter, championing human rights, advancing sustainable development, and holding accountable those who violate international law. When Russia invaded Ukraine in February, an overwhelming majority of United Nations member states sent a resounding message unequivocally condemning the war and Russia’s policies of fear and coercion. Today, the United Nations and countries around the world are providing life-saving aid to the Ukrainian people, supporting refugees, responding to health emergencies, and affirming Ukraine’s right to sovereignty and territorial integrity—core principles of the United Nations Charter. Likewise, the United Nations is playing an essential part in our common effort to address the global challenges of the twenty-first century, including tackling the climate crisis, strengthening global health security and pandemic preparedness and response, advancing human rights and gender equality, and feeding the world.

The United States is determined to continue strengthening its relationships with United Nations member states as we advance an era of relentless diplomacy across the world. We will help developing countries reach their climate goals and make a just transition to clean energy, including by mobilizing funding. We will lead the way in bolstering the global health security