



We all have a right to safe water. We deserve a water system that is

- **Transparent:** plans and information are readily available to the public
- **Accountable:** there is open and timely communication in response to citizen concerns
- **Fair:** customers get what they pay for – safe and reliable water

**West Virginia American Water is failing at its job.** It is not providing safe and reliable water to the Kanawha Valley:

- WV American Water puts corporate profits before our safety
  - It removed the chemical testing laboratory and Elk River water quality monitoring equipment from the Elk River treatment plant in 2004-5 to cut costs
  - It pays \$5-8 million a year of our money to its parent company, New Jersey-based American Water Works as dividend payments
- WV American Water doesn't maintain our infrastructure
  - Currently more than a third of the treated water is lost to leaks before it reaches customers
  - At current investment levels, it would take nearly 400 years to replace all of the water mains
  - The 28% rate increase proposal does not increase the rate of main replacement
- WV American Water keeps the public in the dark
  - It refused to answer basic questions about its emergency planning and preparedness during the Public Service Commission's investigation of its response to the spill
- WV American Water customers are still at risk of chemical contamination
  - Its newly-installed monitoring equipment on the Elk River can't detect MCHM
  - It has no secondary water source for 300,000 people

**West Virginia American Water can be replaced with the safe water system we need:**

A public authority could be established to cover the area currently served by West Virginia American Water's Elk River treatment plant. This authority could buy out West Virginia American Water's infrastructure and run the system in the interests of our community. Such an authority could be set up with more effective citizen oversight to ensure accountability to the community.

**Other communities – from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Stockton, California to Seminole, Florida - have successfully taken control of their water. We can too!**

OurWaterWV.org  
304-814-9870  
info@ourwaterwv.org