



## GREENLATINOS CLEAN & HEALTHY WATERS CORONAVIRUS DIGITAL & ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

**September 15, 2020**

**WHO:** Moderator - Mariana Del Valle, *Clean and Healthy Waters Consultant*, GreenLatinos  
Featured Speakers:

- Janene Yazzie, *Co-founder and CEO, Sixth World Solutions & Sustainable Development Program Coordinator*, International Indian Treaty Council  
[janeney@treatycouncil.org](mailto:janeney@treatycouncil.org)
- Ben Schreiber, *Director of Climate and Energy*, Senator Jeff Merkley  
[Ben\\_Schreiber@merkley.senate.gov](mailto:Ben_Schreiber@merkley.senate.gov)
- Julian Gonzalez, *Legislative Counsel*, EarthJustice [jgonzalez@earthjustice.org](mailto:jgonzalez@earthjustice.org)
- Ramon Perez, *Community Organizer*, The Junction Coalition  
[ramon.junction419@gmail.com](mailto:ramon.junction419@gmail.com)

**WHAT:** The following is a Clean & Healthy Waters Coronavirus toolkit that contains policy resources and information on how COVID-19 affects the BIPOC/Latinx community and as it relates to Clean & Healthy Water. This toolkit also contains digital content for you and/or your organization to raise awareness on these issues and advocate.

**WHEN:** A call on the Coronavirus and Clean & Healthy Waters will be held September 15, 2020 11AM PST/2PM EST. This digital toolkit is intended for ongoing use during the pandemic as organizations and individuals see fit. **Zoom Link to register:**  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tduyqrT8uGNc683BRQsMOyL-H\\_rLPQf5](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tduyqrT8uGNc683BRQsMOyL-H_rLPQf5)

**WHY:** To raise awareness on these key issues, and advocate for the BIPOC/Latinx community.

**HASHTAGS:** #STOPSHUTOFFS #WaterIsAHumanRight #Closethewatergap #Wateraccess  
#ClimateJustice #EnvironmentalJustice

**HANDLES:** @GreenLatinos

**REQUESTS:**

- **If you have social media accounts:** Please like and share content using the hashtags and handles listed above.

**Background: Connection of Issue to COVID-19**



## GREENLATINOS CLEAN & HEALTHY WATERS CORONAVIRUS DIGITAL & ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

COVID-19 and its detrimental impacts on our communities have amplified the need for access to safe and affordable drinking water. Millions of people are staying home due to the pandemic, meanwhile the water access and water shutoff crises are still ongoing and becoming worse in many places around the U.S. this includes California, Texas, Ohio, and Indigenous communities. Latinx, including low-income and communities of color, are severely affected by water shutoffs and often lack the accessibility to clean water.

### Call Information & Invitation

**Clean and Accessible Water during COVID-19**

**When: September 15, 2020 11AM PST/2PM EST**

**Zoom Link to register:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tduyqrT8uGNc683BRQsMOyL-H\\_\\_rLPQf5](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tduyqrT8uGNc683BRQsMOyL-H__rLPQf5)

### Top Policy Asks:

Support Water Access during the Pandemic: Ask your Representatives in Congress, especially in the House of Representatives, to ensure that the next Coronavirus Relief Package prioritizes stopping water shutoffs during the pandemic and provides assistance for families to pay for water service.

Support Get Lead Out Act (HR 7918)

This bill directs all community water systems across the country to develop a plan to inventory and replace all lead service lines in their system within 10 years. To help community water systems afford these necessary upgrades, the bill authorizes nearly \$14 billion over two years with \$13 billion targeted directly to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The DWSRF is a federal-state partnership fund and a main source of funding that allows states to receive monies from EPA and in turn offer low-interest loans—and even forgivable loans—to local water systems to achieve healthy drinking water.

Support Emergency Water and Energy is a Human Right Act (S.4362)

A companion to Representative Rashida Tlaib and Debbie Dingell's House bill, which was included in the House's *Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act*, passed the House in May 2020. This will protect many communities, including low-income and communities of color, barring utilities receiving relief from shutting off power or water to its consumers. Moreover, this bill restores and keeps water access for communities facing shut-offs or who are exposed to toxic water. It will also allocate \$1.5 billion in grants to states and tribal nations to subsidize water costs for communities who need the support.



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### Support [Clean Water for All Act \(H.R. 6745\)](#)

The Clean Water Act introduced in May 2020 would stop implementation of the Dirty Water Rule and require EPA to use appropriate science and public outreach to craft a strong, protective replacement rule. We are still pushing to have more sponsors, so please contact your member of the [House of Representatives](#) and ask them to stand in solidarity with communities defending our waters by co-sponsoring the bill.

### Support [Moving Forward Act \(H.R. 02\)](#)

The Moving Forward Act (H.R. 02) passed in the House of Representatives. It contains a large number of Clean Water-related provisions including useful mechanisms which help communities more effectively access and utilize funding. It has an amendment to provide \$22.5 billion to replace lead service lines prioritizing low-income and environmental justice communities.

### **Policy Resources: (Relevant Articles/Op-ed/ Researching Polling/ Resources)**

[Water Equity Climate Resilience Graphic on Federal Advocacy in 2020](#)

[Bridging the Water Access Gap Through COVID-19 Relief](#)

[Revealed: millions of Americans can't afford water as bills rise 80% in a decade](#)

[The COVID-19 Rising Toll on Latinos, a Look at the Beginning of July 2020](#)

[The Moving Forward Act Fact Sheet](#)

[The Water Resources Development Act of 2020 Fact Sheet](#)

[Support the Clean Water for All Act!](#)

[Coronavirus forces California farmworkers to scramble for safe drinking water](#)

[COVID water Moratorium Tracker](#)

### **Partner Content:**

US Water Alliance and Water Foundation

[Policy Innovations to Secure Drinking Water for All](#)

Dig Deep and US Water Alliance

[Closing the Water Access Gap in the United States](#)

American Rivers

[Invest in Rivers](#)



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Senator Merkley

<https://twitter.com/senjieffmerkley/status/1293558351792607233>

### **Social Content**

#### **Facebook**

- Water shutoffs excessively and severely affect Latinx and low-income communities, which disproportionately lack access to clean water. We need to ensure that the next Coronavirus Relief Package prioritizes stopping water shutoffs during the pandemic and provides assistance for families to pay for water service. Call your Representative today, and ask that they support water access during the pandemic. #WaterIsAHumanRight #StopShutoffs
- COVID-19 and its detrimental impacts on our communities have amplified the need for access to safe and affordable drinking water. Yet, the water access and water shutoff crises are still ongoing and worsening in many places around the US. This crisis impacts our communities in California, Texas, and Ohio, while also largely affecting Indigenous communities. We need to #CloseTheWaterGap and make clean water available for all.

#### **Twitter**

- Latinx, low-income, and communities of color are excessively affected by water shutoffs and disproportionately lack access to clean water. We need to ensure that the next Coronavirus Relief Package provides assistance for families to pay for water service. #WaterIsAHumanRight #StopShutoffs
- #COVID19 lockdowns have amplified the need for access to safe & affordable drinking water. Yet, the water access & water shutoff crises are still ongoing & worsening in many places around the US. We need to #CloseTheWaterGap & make clean water available for all.

#### **Instagram**

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### *LinkedIn*

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**Graphics to Share:**



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# #CloseTheWaterGap

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**GREENLATINOS**