

Pamela Arnold

I write as a resident of Minnesota, a member of the Marine Carnelian St Croix Watershed District Citizen Advisory Council, and I live adjacent to the St Croix River, a National Wild and Scenic River whose waters contain PFAS/FOS chemicals. Something that is so unthinkable and dire that I wonder for our national future. Protecting the waters (and watersheds) of Minnesota should be a priority of MPCA. Wild rice (manoomin) is sacred to the Anishinaabe and is Minnesota's state grain, an important food for wildlife and humans, and an ecological indicator for water quality. The same sulfate pollution that kills wild rice also increases toxic mercury contamination of fish.

We must ensure the MPCA does not allow mines and other industries to discharge uncontrolled pollution for another half a century.

Thank you so much for your commitment to protecting Minnesota's clean waters, health and environmental justice.