



LOWER SUSQUEHANNA RIVERKEEPER ASSOCIATION AND CHESAPEAKE LEGAL ALLIANCE ISSUE NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE J&K SALVAGE FOR VIOLATIONS OF FEDERAL AND STATE CLEAN WATER LAWS

March 31, 2025

Contact:

Ted Evgeniadis
Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Assoc.
717-478-1780
Ted@lowsusriverkeeper.org

Patrick DeArmey
Chesapeake Legal Alliance
(410) 216-9441 ext. []
patrick@chesapeakelegal.org

Today, Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association, represented by the Chesapeake Legal Alliance, issued a Notice of Intent to bring a federal Clean Water Act lawsuit against J&K Salvage, an automobile scrap yard in York, Pennsylvania, for continued unauthorized discharges of pollutants into Codorus Creek and improper handling of solid waste.

J&K Salvage has been discharging water pollution without a permit for over three months and sampling of the site's discharge pipes over the past three years revealed discharges of unauthorized pollutants as well as contamination of wetlands adjacent to the site. This illegal pollution includes metals and chemicals including PFAS, otherwise known as 'forever chemicals'. Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper intends to take legal action against the facility on behalf of its members and the local community that has suffered the consequences of the illegal pollution from this site.

Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association calls on J&K Salvage to take immediate action to bring its facility in compliance with all federal and state environmental pollution prevention laws, including ceasing all discharges without a permit and all unpermitted and illegal pollution.

Our action today begins a 60-day notice period as required by the Clean Water Act, after which, the Chesapeake Legal Alliance, on behalf of Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association and its members, intends to pursue an enforcement action in federal court against J&K Salvage for violations of the Clean Water Act and other applicable state and federal laws unless all violations cease immediately.

"Automotive and metal salvage yards present public health hazards to fenceline communities and the environment across the country," said Ted Evgeniadis, Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper. "Discharging pollutants to a waterway is illegal without a permit for a reason. Heavy metals such as Lead and Arsenic, chemicals like Boron, and cancer-causing contaminants known as PFAS or "forever chemicals" cause irreversible damage to humans and fish and do not belong in our public

water resources. These acts harm downstream public users of the Codorus Creek watershed including wildlife and aquatic life and must be stopped immediately.”

“Runoff from industrial facilities, like scrap yards, degrades local ecosystems, and hinders the public’s ability to enjoy and recreate in local waterways,” said Patrick DeArmey, Senior Attorney for Chesapeake Legal Alliance. “We issued this notice with the goal of bringing the facility back into compliance as soon as possible.”

* * * * *

Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper Association is a licensed Waterkeeper® non-profit organization dedicated to improving the ecological health of the Lower Susquehanna River Watershed and the Chesapeake Bay. The Lower Susquehanna Riverkeeper patrols the river for illegal pollution, and when necessary, enforces environmental laws to protect the river and communities that depend on it.

Chesapeake Legal Alliance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing free legal services, with a mission to apply the power of the law to protect and restore clean water and promote healthy, resilient ecosystems for communities across the Chesapeake Bay watershed.