

The Trump Record: A Betrayal of Public Health & Environmental Protection

EDF and EDF Action have spent the last two years defending decades of environmental progress against a historically unprecedented assault by the Trump administration. This is a partial list of the areas where the administration has attempted to undermine public health protections.

Overall: Broadly attacking environmental safeguards

Climate – Withdrawing from Paris climate agreement, leaving the United States isolated in the world.

Climate – Suppressing science, removing climate data from government websites, appointing climate skeptics.

Climate – Attacking federal clean cars standards, which will lead to billions of tons of additional carbon pollution

Climate – Attacking well-established state authority to carry out strong clean car standards, a long-standing driver of progress in addressing pollution from cars and trucks.

Climate – Attacking the Clean Power Plan and other climate pollution limits for power plants.

Climate – Seeking to undermine climate science and the national security community's assessment of the danger to military bases, troops, and readiness.

Climate – The president's rhetoric doubting climate science and impacts.

Climate – Gutting oil and gas pollution standards.

Climate – Trying to delay standards to reduce methane pollution from landfills.

Clean Air – Seeking to undermine the foundation of the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards, which save more than 10,000 lives a year.

Clean Air – Creating a toxics loophole, that will allow industrial facilities to increase their emissions of toxic air pollutants like benzene, lead, and mercury.

Clean Air – Attacking pollution limits for super-polluting heavy-duty diesel freight trucks.

Clean Air – Undermining good neighbor protections (downwind areas hurt by smog).

Clean Air – Attempting to undermine expert review and implementation of ozone standards.

Clean Air – Attacking protections that require large industrial sources to install modern pollution controls when they are expanding operations and increasing pollution levels.

Clean Air – Dramatically reducing environmental enforcement by EPA.
Science -- Broadly attacking science on air quality standards, including for soot & smog.

Community Safety: Proposing loopholes in long-standing protections under the National Environmental Policy Act that would put communities at risk and worsen climate change.

Open Government: Advancing limits on public input to EPA's internal Environmental Appeals Board, a key forum for communities to seek review of EPA decisions.

Science- Installing industry insiders to lead science boards.

Science -- Seeking to restrict EPA's ability to rely on the best available science when setting standards to protect human health and the environment.

Health – Illegal and dramatically imbalanced implementation of the new TSCA law, allowing chemical industry insiders to write rules, approving potentially dangerous chemicals for the market.

Health – Suppressing important health studies on chemicals like formaldehyde.

Health – Proposing a weak lead action plan without clear goals, funding, or deadlines.

Fisheries - Illegally extending the private recreational fishing season for Gulf of Mexico red snapper without proper scientific analysis, causing fishing to exceed catch limits and further delay to the stock's recovery.

Wildlife – Undermining a historic 2015 agreement between 10 states and the federal government to protect Greater Sage-Grouse and keep the bird off of the Endangered Species list.

Wildlife – Eliminating compensatory mitigation at the Bureau of Land Management, a critical tool that actually provides for economic growth and protection of the environment and species

Wildlife – Continuing to propose budgets that slash funding for the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Conservation – Continuing to propose budgets that slash funding for the US Department of Agriculture conservation programs that improve soil health and water quality in critical watersheds across the country.

EPA Budget – Repeatedly recommending nearly 1/3rd cuts to EPA's budget, which would eviscerate the agency's ability to protect public health.

Lobbyist influence – Appointing industry lobbyists and industry insiders to key positions, including head of EPA and Secretary of the Interior.

Secrecy – Operating without transparency including suppressing previously public materials like key analytic models and senior officials' calendars.