



### **CORPORATE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MANDATE**

Riverkeeper's Corporate Stewardship Council (CSC) is a unique group of companies based in New York that shares a common goal of protecting and restoring the Hudson River, safeguarding clean drinking water, and promoting environmental sustainability and responsibility. The CSC encourages connections between Riverkeeper and corporate entities in New York and facilitates funding and grant-making to Riverkeeper from member companies.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The CSC comprises representatives of member companies that are active in New York City or the Hudson Valley, support robust sustainability programs and help move the needle on sustainable practices in our area, and make charitable contributions to Riverkeeper activities subject to Riverkeeper's Gift Acceptance Policy (below).

### **KEY ACTIVITIES**

- Riverkeeper will organize twice-yearly meetings or conference calls of the CSC to update members on Riverkeeper's current activities and priorities
- Riverkeeper will maintain a CSC page on its website where members are listed with links to information about the company
- Riverkeeper will offer branding and marketing and sponsorship opportunities to CSC members associated with Riverkeeper events such as the Sweep, the Fishermen's Ball, and other special events (see attached Sponsorship deck)
- Riverkeeper will list CSC members in the annual journal
- Companies will make an annual donation of at least \$5,000 to Riverkeeper
- Companies will encourage their employees to become Riverkeeper members and take action on behalf of Riverkeeper
- Companies will encourage sustainable practices within their offices and among their employees
- Member companies may also choose to take advantage of benefits available to their employees including volunteer opportunities with Riverkeeper, onsite environmental programming, and access to Riverkeeper staff for advice on shared environmental concerns
- Riverkeeper will provide a CSC logo for use by member companies. All other uses of Riverkeeper's name and logo must be negotiated with Riverkeeper staff

## **RIVERKEEPER GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY:**

Riverkeeper is funded by a variety of income sources including individual and corporate donors, foundations, events, and other revenue generated by activities such as the sale of goods or outreach. All income is broken down into specific categories defined by Riverkeeper's general ledger codes. When income is received by Riverkeeper, it is categorized using the general ledger codes and processed regularly in accordance with the procedures outlined in this manual. All donations are subject to Riverkeeper's Gift Acceptance Policy.

Riverkeeper accepts unrestricted gifts and gifts for specific programs and purposes, provided that such gifts are not inconsistent with its stated mission, purposes, and priorities. Riverkeeper may accept gifts of cash, securities, and property from individuals, foundations, and corporations when the following conditions are met:

- Acceptance of the gift in no way limits the actions Riverkeeper may take, including litigation, or policies that Riverkeeper may advocate.
- Gifts may not be accepted from any entity whose activities may likely cause reputational harm to Riverkeeper, or may cause Riverkeeper to pursue litigation or other advocacy against the donor.

### **Restricted Gifts**

Riverkeeper does not accept gifts that are excessively restrictive in purpose; restricted amounts of less than \$1,000 (unless these are given to partner organizations, for which Riverkeeper is the fiscal sponsor); are too difficult to administer; or are given for purposes outside the mission of Riverkeeper. All final decisions on the restrictive nature of the gift, and its acceptance or refusal, are made by the President or Vice President for Development.

### **Additional Considerations for Gifts from Businesses and Corporate Foundations**

Riverkeeper will not solicit or accept gifts from businesses or corporate foundations that are engaged in, or risk polluting waterways, groundwater, or drinking water sources or those that bottle and sell drinking water. Riverkeeper may accept donations from other companies provided the following conditions are met:

- The business or corporate foundation has a clear understanding of and supports the basic, adopted goals of Riverkeeper and such funding is used to further these goals.
- The Development Committee of Riverkeeper's Board of Directors must approve corporate contributions over 5 percent of Riverkeeper's annual budget.
- All information and/or data gathered through activities supported by the gift remain part of the public domain.
- The donor confirms that it has disclosed to Riverkeeper all known violations of environmental laws and pending judicial and administrative actions against it for alleged environmental violations.
- The donor does not display a pattern or practice of non-compliance with federal or state clean water regulations.

If there are any questions, the Riverkeeper's President or Vice President for Development may determine which companies can be solicited or from which Riverkeeper will accept donations.

**ABOUT RIVERKEEPER:**

For more than a half century, Riverkeeper has been New York’s clean water advocate, helping to establish globally recognized standards for waterway and watershed protection through our work protecting the Hudson River and New York City’s drinking water supply.

**Our Mission:** Riverkeeper is a member-supported watchdog organization dedicated to defending the ecological integrity of the Hudson River and its tributaries, and to safeguarding the drinking water of 9 million New York City and Hudson Valley residents.

**Our vision:** A Hudson River teeming with life, flowing with clean, swimmable waters from end to end, and healthy, abundant drinking water for all New Yorkers.

Riverkeeper is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt membership organization incorporated under the laws of the State of New York in 1984 and a top-ranked 501(c)(3) charity.

We are proud to be a 4-Star Charity, a distinction we’ve received for 6 years in a row!

