

Don't Frack Maryland

Ban Fracking to Protect Our Climate, Our Health, and Our Economy!

Evidence continues to mount that fracking pollutes the air we breathe and the water we drink, while worsening climate change and uprooting local economies. In Maryland, we **won a major victory against the gas industry** -- by passing a two-year moratorium that will prevent fracking in Maryland through October 1, 2017.

But the gas industry is already maneuvering to be able to drill as soon as the moratorium lifts next year. We can't afford the risks. We have seen fracking destroy communities and leave a toxic legacy in its wake. We can and should power Maryland through renewable energy like wind and solar.

Join the movement to ban fracking in Maryland!

Email Brooke at brooke@chesapeakeclimate.org to get involved.

What would fracking mean for Maryland?



Sherry Vargson ignites the tap water in her kitchen on the Vargson farmlands in Granville Summit, Pennsylvania. Photographer: Melanie Stetson Freeman/The Christian Science Monitor via Getty Images

Contaminated drinking water

In neighboring Pennsylvania, families have found high levels of methane in their drinking water and have even documented cases of being able to set their tap water on fire. Residents and businesses in Maryland could experience a one-two punch of having limited water sources drained for fracking and then polluted afterwards with toxic, carcinogenic chemicals used during the drilling process.

Bad air quality

A number of air contaminants known to cause short-term illness, cancer, organ damage, birth defects and even death are released through various stages of the fracking process, including smog, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, benzene, and formaldehyde.

Dropping home prices

A new study the University of Denver found that homes within a mile of drilling activity fell in value by as much as 15%! It goes without saying that the market value of a home or business with a contaminated well from fracking is dramatically less.

A warming climate

A growing body of evidence shows that fracked gas could be worse for the climate than coal over the next 20 years because of leaks of heat-trapping methane.



Fort Worth, Texas, is the epicenter of urban fracking. The city has at least 1,400 natural gas wells, some as close as 200 or 300 feet from people's houses. Photo by Fort Worth Citizens Against Neighborhood Drilling Ordinance

Fracking is Not Just a Western Maryland Problem



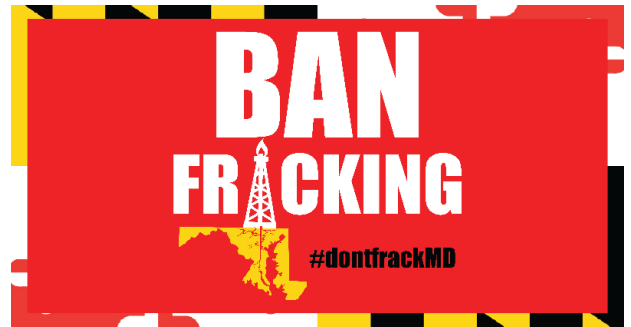
Most reports about drilling and fracking in Maryland have focused on the potential to extract gas from the Marcellus shale in Garrett and Allegany counties in Western Maryland.

But assessments from the United States Geological Survey indicate that there are gas deposits in other basins throughout the state including portions of the following counties: **St. Mary's, Calvert, Dorchester, Talbot, Caroline, Queen Anne's, Wicomico, Somerset, Worcester, Frederick and Montgomery counties.**

Support for a ban on fracking is growing across Maryland

Over 70 groups (and counting) in Maryland have called for a ban on fracking – from climate groups like us, to river keepers, outfitters, service unions, public interest organizations, health groups, farmers and faith groups.

Montgomery County and Prince George's County, which together represent over a third of Maryland's population, have already effectively banned fracking. And poll-after-poll in Maryland shows that more than half of Marylanders oppose fracking.



The only guaranteed way to protect Marylanders from fracking is through a permanent, statewide ban.

The Chesapeake Climate Action Network, and our allies in the Don't Frack Maryland coalition, are committed to passing a permanent, statewide ban on fracking in Maryland before the state's two-year fracking moratorium expires in October 2017.

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TAKE ACTION! To learn more, and find additional resources, visit our website at: <http://chesapeakeclimate.org/maryland/fracking/>.

To get involved, email CCAN's Maryland Field Director, Brooke Harper, at brooke@chesapeakeclimate.org.