

# PUBLIC HERALD

## BRIEF

*Shale gas extraction has inevitable impacts. Public Herald's documentary **TRIPLE DIVIDE** investigates how the impacts are being handled by the state and industry. The story highlights the need for more investigative journalism and detailed discussion. We hope this brief can help inform the public and begin a dialogue.*

"Everything is Downstream"



[www.tripledividefilm.org](http://www.tripledividefilm.org)



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# TRIPLE DIVIDE POINTS

## PREDRILL TEST SCANDAL

1. DEP allowed Chesapeake Energy to dismiss predrill tests in two of Pa.'s highest profile cases: Bradford County Atgas blowout & Sugar Run.

## CLASS II INJECTION WELL

1. One of every 6 oil and gas waste injection wells have [construction] well integrity violations.

2. Each new well drilled acts as a Class II Injection Well, storing waste, unpermitted by EPA.

## PRESSURE BULB

1. Where is the regulation for the maximum amount of pressure permitted for fracking a gas well in Pennsylvania? Hydrostatic pressure allows for fluids to communicate from deep shale layers towards the surface.

## NEBRASKA GROUT STUDY

1. No grout that stays adhered to the casing.
2. When grout fails, companies perform 'cement squeezes.'

## VIOLATIONS & DRILL WASTE PITS

1. Landowners are not required to be notified about violations, like burials of radioactive shale waste.

2. There is very little oversight with regard to shale drilling waste. Companies only have to report the amount, destination, and testing of waste once a year. Waste is not tracked per load by the state.

## EXCEPTIONAL VALUE POLLUTION

1. 80% of drinking water in PA comes from forested watersheds.

2. Repeat violators continue to receive permits to operate near Exceptional Value & High Quality streams.

## ECOTERRORISM (RIGHTS)

1. Pennsylvania's Constitution, Article I, section 27 states: "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."

2. Ecoterrorism is being used by natural gas industries as a PR weapon to weaken constitutional rights and prevent transparency.

## TRACKING SHALE GAS ACTIVITY

**FracTracker** <http://www.fractracker.org/maps/>  
Find wells, permits, violations, and water bodies near you; (717) 756-2637.

**SkyTruth** <http://alerts.skytruth.org/>  
Receive email alerts when activity is in your area; (304) 885-4581.

\*If you have health concerns you feel are related to oil and gas activity, call Southwest PA Environmental Health Project, (724) 260-5504.

\*To report an incident threatening environmental or human health, contact your local authorities, your local press, as well as PA DEP, 1-800-541-2050.

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