Understanding Hydraulic Fracturing (Fracking)

This Series is made possible through the support of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners:

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With special thanks to the Planning Commission’s Educational Series Subcommittee members:

Adam Kantrovich
Jim Miedema
Roman Wilson

Ottawa County Planning & Performance Improvement Department

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Series Location:

Ottawa County Fillmore Complex
Main Conference Room
12220 Fillmore Street
West Olive, MI 49460

A Three-Part EDUCATIONAL SERIES

Sponsored by the Ottawa County Planning Commission

Ottawa County Fillmore Complex
Main Conference Room
12220 Fillmore Street
West Olive, MI 49460
Hydraulic Fracturing Educational Series

Hydraulic fracturing (fracking) is a confusing subject and is difficult to understand due to the variety of strong viewpoints expressed by both supporters and detractors of the gas extraction process. In a continuing effort to equip individuals to make well-informed judgments about this technology, the Ottawa County Planning Commission is hosting a three-part educational series on fracking.

SESSION #1
Hydraulic Fracturing - Panel Discussion

Panelists:
Jason E. Poll*, CPG, Lakeshore Environmental
Amy L. VanDyke*, Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones
Adam Wygant, MI Dept of Environmental Quality

Tuesday, February 18, 2014
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

This educational forum is designed to provide attendees with a straightforward, factual, and scientific perspective about the Hydraulic Fracturing process. It will also provide a comparison of the processes used in Michigan to processes used in other states. The forum will conclude with a Question & Answer period. Panelists were selected based on their knowledge and expertise. Some of the subjects to be covered are listed below:

- Hydraulic Fracturing Overview
- Geology & Fracturing (see rock samples and some materials used in fracking process)
- Fluids and Flow-back
- Current Fracking Activity in Michigan
- Permitting, Regulations, and Violations
- Health and Environmental Concerns
- The Gasland Movie and its Applicability to Michigan
- Lawsuits
- Newly Proposed Rules and Legislation

* Jason and Amy are both members of the Michigan Oil & Gas Assoc.

SESSION #2
Land Owners - Ensure You're Protected When Negotiating an Oil & Gas Lease

Presenter:
Curtis Talley, Jr., Michigan State University Extension

Thursday, February 27, 2014
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Selling mineral rights or leasing oil & natural gas rights can lead to a significant income opportunity for land owners. However, before entering into any contracts, land owners should be informed about the process and their rights to protect their land while maximizing their income. Attendees will learn about State regulations that apply to oil & gas leases, what to consider when negotiating a sale or lease, and how to evaluate contract offers from an oil and gas company.

SESSION #3
Land-Use Regulations and Hydraulic Fracturing

Presenter:
Ron Bultje, Scholten Fant

Thursday, March 20, 2014
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The objective of this session is to provide local officials as well as land-use planners and zoning administrators with an overview of the current regulatory landscape, particularly at the local level. Some of the specific land-use topics to be addressed include the following: general zoning regulation, truck traffic, noise, odor, lighting, hours of operation, dust, earth change permits, soil erosion permits, and groundwater well permits.

Registration Information:

~ Advanced registration is requested ~

Please register with the Ottawa County Planning and Performance Improvement Department:

- Online
  miottawa.org/Departments/Planning/fracking.htm
- Email plan@miottawa.org
- Telephone (616) 738-4852

Registration Deadlines:

SESSION #1
Hydraulic Fracturing - Panel Discussion
RSVP by February 13, 2014

SESSION #2
Land Owners - Ensure You’re Protected When Negotiating an Oil & Gas Lease
RSVP by February 21, 2014

SESSION #3
Land-Use Regulations and Hydraulic Fracturing
RSVP by March 14, 2014

*This series is being provided free-of-charge.*