NEW IN 2017: TOOLS FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILY, AND YOUR COMMUNITY

Shale Gas & Oil Health Registry & Resource Network
EHP has developed a national health registry for people living within five miles of unconventional oil and gas development (UOGD) sites. The registry serves as an important step toward understanding health conditions associated with shale oil and gas development. By registering, individuals will be contributing to important research on this public health problem and will receive regular updates on what research tells us the impacts may be on ourselves and our families.

EHP Citizen Science Toolkit
The Citizen Science Toolkit allows you to actively monitor and address the environmental health risks of fracking. By following the process outlined in this Toolkit, you will be joining the EHP Community in taking important steps toward protecting your family and your neighbors from the potential harms associated with UOGD.

Environmental Health Channel
The Environmental Health Channel is an interactive web-based platform for sharing de-identified citizen-collected environmental and health data and personal narratives. This data, shared by affected residents and collected by EHP, includes physical and psychosocial health symptoms, particulate pollution (PM2.5) air measurements, and personal stories from residents. The Channel displays this information with interactive maps and graphs that let you see for yourself how air emissions may be affecting your community and its health.

Enhancing Health in Pennsylvania
Enhancing Health in Pennsylvania is a pilot project to increase resilience in 4 counties in Southwest PA experiencing UOGD. Through discussion groups, the residents and communities we worked with had the chance to be heard and contribute to resources that would help them and others facing this issue. From this project, EHP created the Protecting Your Health and Where to Turn for Help: Resources for Shale Gas Communities toolkit.

A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

EHP reached a new level in 2017. While shale gas communities across our state continue to face enormous challenges, EHP worked incredibly hard to respond to the public health crisis of under-regulated shale development (“fracking”). With countless community partners, we aggressively monitored air, water, and soil, mobilized medical professionals, and drew national attention to the shameful practices of the shale gas industry in our region.

In these increasingly tough times we live in, we need your help more than ever. Please join us in the battle for truth, scientific facts, and healthy communities. We stand beside you, in fighting for our constitutional rights, and for the right for clean air, clean water, and a healthy life for all.

In Good Health,

[Signature]

Through the generosity of people like you, EHP’s work has made a difference in the lives of many in the SWPA community and beyond. Your gift allows us to provide access to accurate, timely and trusted public health information and health services associated with UOGD.

Donate now
The Right to a Healthy Home: Reframing Fracking

In Part 1 of this two-part series, we describe how the many aspects of fracking can negatively impact a healthy home environment, making the argument for a frame that focuses on those impacts. Part 2 of this series brings in the idea of human rights, and lists several declared rights that fracking violates.

This series emphasizes that the loss of a secure home is one of the many negative impacts of fracking. Developing an effective description of this phenomenon is an important way to appeal to decision makers regulating the safety of fracking for our health and communities.

Health symptoms in residents living near shale gas activity: A retrospective record review from the Environmental Health Project

What do sleep disruption, headache, throat irritation, stress or anxiety, cough, shortness of breath, sinus problems, fatigue, nausea, and wheezing have in common? These are the most commonly reported health symptoms near fracking, as described in a new EHP paper published in Preventive Medicine Reports. This important research adds to our growing understanding of associations between symptoms and exposure to unconventional natural gas development. Thousands have already viewed this, and you can, too, by clicking on the title above.

Health Effects Associated with Chemical Emissions from NYS Natural Gas Compressor Stations: 2008-2014

What are the health effects associated with natural gas compressor stations? This groundbreaking report discusses the chemical and particulate emissions of the 18 largest compressor stations in New York State (NYS) and potential health effects. This is the first time emissions data and health effects have been compiled side-by-side, raising questions about residents’ health in communities close to these facilities. Read a summary here.

Participatory Air Monitoring in the Midst of Uncertainty: Residents’ Experiences with the Speck Sensor

How do participants engage in at-home air monitoring when faced with exposures to airborne emissions associated with shale gas development? Using interview and survey data from residents, advocates, and activists, the article shows that residents use the Speck in various ways to make decisions about their day-to-day activities, to validate concerns of exposure, to assist EHP’s data collection, and more.

Fracking and Children’s Health Webinar

On June 9th, EHP hosted a webinar on Children and Fracking: Understanding the Dangers and Protecting our Vulnerable Kids.

Nationally recognized experts Dr. Laura Anderko, PhD, RN, from Georgetown University and Dr. Illah R. Nourbaksh, PhD, from Carnegie Mellon University discussed risks and symptoms associated with fracking and children’s health along with how to monitor and mitigate your air. One hundred individuals tuned in for this webinar.

If you missed it, watch it here.
INTERACTIVE LEARNING (CONTIN’D)

Shale Oil & Gas Health Registry & Resource Network

In April, EHP hosted a webinar to introduce the Shale Gas & Oil Health Registry & Resource Network, a tool for allowing those living or working in the shale fields to upload and document their health symptoms and potential exposures to contaminated air and water. The registry allows you to share your information to educate policy makers on real data of citizens exposed to UOGD and support scientific research being done on the environmental health impacts, and receive updates on emerging published research on health impacts. To date, this is the only national health registry tracking health in regards to shale gas and oil development.

Join the Health Effects Registry

Injection Wells 101: Finding a Place for our Fracking Waste Webinar

In October, EHP co-hosted a webinar with Halt the Harm Network on injection wells with speakers Ted Auch, Great Lakes Program Coordinator for FracTracker Alliance and Felicia Mettler, a Torch, OH resident and member of Torch CAN DO and Buckeye Environmental Network (BEN). Presenters spoke about health and environmental risks associated with injection wells. Did you miss it? Watch here.

CHECK OUT THESE GREAT RESOURCES FROM THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE:

ToxTown
Introduction to toxic chemicals and environmental health risks you might encounter in everyday life.

Environmental Health and Toxicology
Information on toxicology, chemicals, and environmental health.

ON THE ROAD...

This year, you may have seen EHP sharing information in PA and beyond...

- Beaver County Office on Aging Health Fair
- Bobtown Senior Center
- Greene County Senior Health Fair
- Horseheads Historical Society (Horseheads, NY)
- Jefferson Senior Center
- Varna Fire Hall (Ithaca, NY)
- Washington County Senior Health Fair
- West Virginia Association of Housing Agencies Conference (Charleston, WV)

...and many other places!

REMINDER

The Environmental Health Project provides FREE services for residents in Southwest PA affected by UOGD.

Contact us at 724-260-5504 for air and water monitors, or to schedule an appointment with our nurse practitioner.

Follow us on social media!