



Six glycol dehydrators and three condensate tanks on Inflection Energy's "Ultimate Warrior Pad" off route 87 in Upper Fairfield Township, Lycoming County

Greetings!

First off, we are excited to introduce the following tutorial on basic zoning concepts. This is the first of four videos RDA is putting together to help inspire and empower citizens to get more involved in the local zoning process. Please feel free to share & help spread the word. Next, RDA President Jim Slotterback describes what it is like to live in the land of seismic testing--an invasion and assault on our rights.

In Other News presents some newly discovered water contamination issues, an interesting admission from BP about global warming, and some good news out of our court system in favor of the "little guy."

As usual, there are plenty of worth-while events and action points listed in the sidebar. And this issue closes out with some very important upcoming events that you won't want to miss.

Thank you for reading & have a great day!

Sincerely,

Brooke Woodside
Managing Editor

Visit our website at: www.rdapa.org

RDA tutorial: basic zoning concepts

This week, RDA releases the first of what will eventually be a four-part "tutorial" on Pennsylvania zoning.

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In Other News

Fracking brings ammonium and iodide to waterways

Researchers find alarming levels of these new contaminants in wastewater released into Pennsylvania and West Virginia streams.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Background: a little over a year ago, in *Robinson Township, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, et al. v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court struck down zoning provisions in Act 13 (Pennsylvania's 2012 Oil and Gas Act) that would have mandated statewide, one-size-fits-all zoning rules for oil and gas development activities. The past year has seen a flurry of zoning activity in municipalities trying to insure gas development rights and, in a number of cases - in municipalities with active, concerned citizens who are opposed to development in their neighborhoods - protect families, property values and quality of life. RDA conceived the tutorial as a way to introduce citizens to zoning -- and to enable them to participate effectively in their municipalities' zoning decisions. The first video is a basic introduction to zoning concepts. Future videos will explore the history of zoning of oil and gas activities in Pennsylvania, citizen participation in conditional use and special exception proceedings, and the adoption of new zoning ordinances.

The participation of RDA board member and PennFuture staff attorney, Mark Szybist is on a volunteer basis, but RDA welcomes donations to help fund the filming and production of future videos. [Click here to make a Paypal donation.](#)

* * *



Zoning 101

BP says CO2 emissions unsustainable, warns on global warming

In its Energy Outlook 2035, BP predicts that CO2 emissions will exceed levels which scientists say pose a threat to climate change unless coordinated action is taken.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Court sides with "little guy"

Earthjustice submitted an amicus brief on behalf of small landowners in a PA case, in which Cabot attempted to extend its lease term after an unsuccessful lease challenge by landowners it had duped.

The case was filed in federal court, but the Third Circuit certified the question to the PA Supreme Court, which rejected the claim that the lease should be "equitably extended."

[Click here to read the Opinion from the case.](#)

House Democratic Policy Hearing

Monday, March 2, 10 am

Minority Caucus Room
State Capitol Building
418 MC

PA Carbon Neutrality

Representative Vitali will be hosting a hearing of the House Democratic Policy Committee to discuss what PA should be doing to achieve carbon neutrality.

[Click here to see a list of confirmed speakers and more details on the event.](#)

[Click here for more information on PA carbon neutrality from Rep Vitali.](#)

Seismic testing assaults our land

by Jim Slotterback, RDA President

I find myself gritting my teeth on my daily drive to work. It's still a beautiful drive, but now my view is marred by brightly colored flagging dotting the roadways. The ribbon itself is fairly benign. I know what it means and that's what bothers me. Seismic testing is being conducted in the townships North, East, and West of Williamsport. It means an invasion. It represents an assault on our way of life, our sense of community, and our land. Following the seismic testing will be more applications for gas wells, pipelines, compressor stations, and odorant injection stations. This industrial activity and infrastructure encroaching upon our residential communities is absurd. The gas industry consistently demonstrates lack of consideration and respect for those of us that live here.

Rivertown Coalition Spring Workshop

Saturday, March 7

St Paul's UCC Church
400 Market Street
Selinsgrove, PA

"News from the River"

Rivertown Coalition - a sister group from Union, Snyder and Northumberland Counties - is holding their fourth spring educational workshop. Though these counties have little active drilling, they have numerous support industries and are targeted for a bunch of pipelines.

Speakers:

Dr. Kathy Straub from the Environmental Studies Department, Susquehanna University - climate Issues; Ralph Kisberg from the RDA - the development of the gas industry in Lycoming County; Deidre Lally (representative of Clean Air/Clean Water) - pipelines and the conversion of the Shamokin Dam power plant to gas

Continental breakfast, No charge, but registration would be appreciated.

[Click here to RSVP.](#)

Governor Wolf: Follow NY's Lead & Ban Fracking Now

This petition is brought to us by Food & Water Watch.

This victory came after years of education, mobilization and advocacy work done by Food & Water Watch as a co-founding member of New Yorkers Against Fracking, and the strong network of allies and grassroots activists in NY.

After activists demanded that New York study the health effects of fracking, a two-year investigation by the state's own commission confirmed what the movement has been saying all along, that fracking cannot be done safely.

[Click here to send Wolf a message to ban fracking.](#)

Stop the Mariner East and the Atlantic Sunrise Pipelines

We received a letter from Inflection requesting permission to access our property and to conduct seismic testing. In reply, we sent Inflection a letter denying them permission and clearly stating we would not allow Inflection or their contracted companies on our property. A few days later, my wife found a man taking a reading from a telephone pole. He parked his four-wheeler in our driveway and was on our property. He said he was with Inflection. She politely told him he was not allowed here, but let him finish getting readings of the pole. He was cordial and left. We came home from work a few days later to find brightly colored flagging hanging from a bush alongside our driveway (not our property, but footprints in the snow to the flagging came from our driveway). Once again, several days went by and we saw a four wheeler and a tracked vehicle enter our driveway and disappear up into the neighbor's fields. It was too quick for us to do anything about it.

I called the seismic group conducting the testing to ask questions and express concerns about the "sources" they use. The supervisor I spoke with scheduled to meet with me but never showed up for the meeting. We have written Inflection a letter stating we don't want them on our property and yet, here they are. What recourse do we have? Call the police? They would be difficult for the police to find and follow up with. Call the company again? It may make us feel like we did something, but they obviously don't make changes to their operation. Call a lawyer? Spend lots of money to have the company say "sorry." Confront them? That's about it. Once again, we've done that and they smile and nod their heads and say "sorry," then do it again. Just as the three stooges muddled their way through every television episode, so goes the seismic testing through our township.



My wife and I spend more of our waking hours outside on our property than inside our house. Our land is our home. Watching the seismic testing crews walk on our property is a helpless feeling. It's frustrating, infuriating, and flies in the face of individual property rights. This is a small glimpse at how our community is changing. This is only the beginning of the impacts of shale development upon our way of life. Unfortunately, the worst is yet to come.

FCFP's Raise the Region

Wednesday, March 11, 6 pm until Tuesday, March 12, 11:59 pm

The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) is excited to announce Raise the Region 2015, an event to help the communities of Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, and Union counties support local nonprofit organizations fundraising efforts. FCFP, in partnership with Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, will be launching a 30-hour fundraising event starting on Wednesday, March 11, 2015.

Mark your calendar! On Wednesday, March 11th at 6:00 PM through 11:59 PM on Thursday, March 12th the public is encouraged to visit www.raiseheregion.org and select the participating nonprofit(s) of your choice to support. Your gift will be stretched by a generous contribution from Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships. Your

donation(s) can also help raise additional support for the nonprofits selected by qualifying them for monetary prizes.

All gifts are tax deductible and will help make your favorite nonprofit's mission possible.

Together we are Creating Powerful Communities Through Passionate Giving! Nonprofit participation in Raise the Region is available to all 501c3 organizations in good standing with the IRS that primarily serve one of the following counties: Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, or Union. Registration is closed. Higher Education Institutions, programs with fiscal agents, and government/public taxing entities are not eligible to participate in Raise the Region.

For more information on Raise the Region or the programs and services offered by the Community Foundation, contact the Community Foundation office at 1-866- 901-2372.



[Click here for more information.](#)

"A Solar Home Companion"

RDA welcomes Josh Fox, producer/director of Gasland; and Zephyr Teachout, law professor at Fordham University

Mark your calendar and plan to join RDA on Sunday, March 15th at 7 pm at the Lycoming College Clarke Chapel!

Conceived and directed by Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning filmmaker and activist Josh Fox, The Solutions Grassroots Tour: "A Solar Home Companion" combines classic storytelling and great music with roll-up-your sleeves organizing to look at the impacts of fossil fuel development and provide a vision for developing renewable energy like no other event on the planet.

Lightly parodying NPR/Garrison Keillor's popular "A Prairie Home Companion" the show is like an old fashioned variety show, with music, stories, film sequences, and Americana but with a new twist: this show teaches its audience how to go renewable and how to organize for a sustainable future.

Josh and Zephyr, along with musicians and renewable energy experts, will be in Williamsport on Sunday, March 15th. Learn more about the Solutions Grassroots Tour here:

http://solutionsgrassroots.nationbuilder.com/the_tour

The Clean Air Council has prepared the following petitions:

Mariner East Pipeline

Sunoco Logistics is attempting to get air quality permits from the DEP for three more pumping stations along the proposed Mariner East pipeline in Huntingdon County, Dauphin County, and Perry County.

If approved, the pipeline would transport 70,000 barrels per day of ethane and propane across Pennsylvania to ship overseas for plastic manufacturing. While Sunoco Logistics would reap the profits from this project, our communities would be left with the dangers of these explosive products at higher pressures in the pipeline that is over 80 years old!

[Click here to sign.](#)

Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline

The proposed Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline would span 178 miles through eight counties in PA. If approved, it would directly impact the lives of thousands of people living in these communities.

Help protect PA from the construction of this damaging pipeline. By signing this petition, you are urging the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and PA elected officials to deny the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline and to instead protect PA homes, farms and natural areas.

[Click here to sign.](#)

Protect Our Public Lands from Fracking

Representative Mark Pocan (WI-2) recently introduced a bill to ban fracking on all public lands - the strongest piece of federal legislation against fracking to date. Fracking on public lands means clear-cutting forests for well pads, air pollution, potential water contamination and thousands of trucks carrying water, toxic chemicals and waste.

Our US parks and national forests are irreplaceable. Not

SOLUTIONS GRASSROOTS

A way for renewable energy to be developed through culture and grassroots democracy.

[Click here to RSVP for A SOLAR HOME COMPANION in Williamsport, PA.](#)

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only do they provide beautiful recreational areas and essential wildlife habitat, they also protect critical drinking water sources.

[Click here to sign the Food and Water Watch petition asking Representatives to ban fracking on public land.](#)

Join RDA!

Sign Up/Make a Donation

We welcome your active participation and are in need of help for special events, publicity, research and other projects.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, RDA relies on donations for the important work we do. In order for RDA to continue its valuable education and advocacy outreach in 2015, please consider a tax-free contribution to our efforts.

You can send a donation to the address listed at the bottom of this email, [click here to donate via PayPal](#), or [click here to download our current membership form](#) to fill out and send in along with your donation.

Membership levels:

Adventurer.....	\$10
Explorer.....	\$20
Woodlander.....	\$50
Guardian.....	\$100
Naturalist.....	\$500
Preservationist.....	\$1,000

www.RDAPA.org

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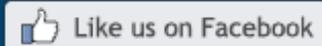
Please note: The RDA newsletter includes reporting on a variety of events and activities, which do not necessarily reflect the philosophy of the organization. RDA practices only non-violent action in voicing the organization's beliefs and concerns.

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