

# Protecting Communities and Special Places

e-Newsletter August 23, 2013



**"Future generations are unlikely to condone our lack of prudent concern for the integrity of the natural world that supports all life."  
~ Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring***

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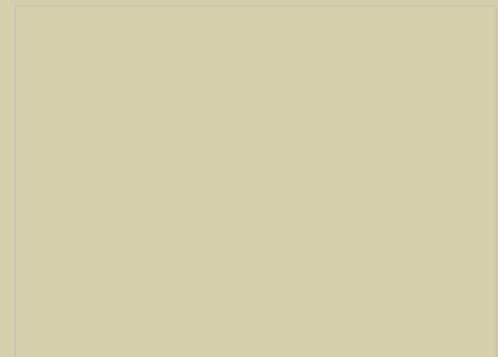
In The News

Quote of the Day

## "Save the Loyalsock" Petitions Presented at Capitol

HARRISBURG - Just after the disturbing discovery that Governor Corbett's administration didn't record any input from concerned citizens at the only public hearing held to date on opening pristine areas of Loyalsock State Forest to more drilling, a coalition of conservation and outdoor organizations delivered over 12,000 signatures and renewed their call for a formal, comprehensive public input process on this public lands issue.

The people of Pennsylvania are the owners and stewards of Loyalsock State Forest," said Adam Garber, [PennEnvironment](#) Field Director. "Yet instead of garnering input from the state's citizens, Gov. Corbett's administration has avoided every opportunity for official public input, ignoring the growing outcry to protect this natural treasure from further fracking."



Rep. Greg Vitali speaks at the press conference in Harrisburg.

IMAGE: ANN PINCA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**House Hearing On Bill To Change Endangered Species Listing Process**

**Monday!  
AUGUST 26  
2:00 p.m.**

**Empire Beauty School Auditorium  
396 Pottsville St Clair Highway  
Pottsville, PA**

The House Game & Fisheries and Environmental Resources & Energy Committees will hold a joint hearing on [House Bill 1576](#) (Pyle-R-Armstrong)

After six months of ongoing public outcry and scrutiny, officials from the [Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources](#) (DCNR) held the first - and so far only - public hearing last June about plans to open up new tracts of the Loyalsock State Forest to natural gas drilling. But a recent open records request by the [Pennsylvania Forest Coalition](#) indicated that the agency kept no record of the input and testimony from the hearing's attendees.

"Anadarko's plan, if enacted, would destroy the wild character of Loyalsock State Forest," said the Democratic Chairman of the state House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, state Representative Greg Vitali (Delaware County). "Public hearings are crucial. Greater public awareness of the issue will result in a better outcome."

The [June 3 hearing in Williamsport](#) demonstrated that thousands of visitors enjoy the Loyalsock State Forest, as hundreds in attendance recalled memories of spending summer vacations and year-round family outings in the Loyalsock. But these stories and many more were lost by the DCNR's failure to record the

fundamentally changing the procedure for listing state threatened and endangered species. A [summary of the bill](#) by the legislation's sponsor is available online. Identical legislation has been introduced in the Senate as [Senate Bill 1047](#) (Scarnati-R-Jefferson).

Why you need to attend:

*"The legislation is being promoted by the Marcellus Shale drilling and coal mining industries."*

[Read here for more details on the hearing](#)

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**Save the Date  
for the next  
Keep It Wild Hike**

**September 22  
10:00 a.m.**

Bob Webber Trail  
Wolf Run Wild Area  
Tiadaghton State Forest

[Enjoy photos from the last hike at Worlds End State Park here](#)

[www.keepitwildrda.org](http://www.keepitwildrda.org)  
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**SHALE GAS OUTRAGE  
2013**

**September 24-26**

**Philadelphia, Pa.**

Shale Gas Outrage Water Drive, Sep 24-26

Freedom from Fracking III Conference, 2 pm - 8 pm Thursday, September 26

[Find more details here](#)

**TAKE ACTION!**

**Report Shale Gas Air Pollution NOW**

Clean Air Council announces a new auto-alert system for notifying relevant agencies about odors,

public hearing. The coalition is calling on the DCNR to hold a series of six formal, recorded public hearings across the Commonwealth, as well as at least a 90-day public comment period, so citizens can have input into the future of Loyalsock State Forest.

"While it is clear that protecting Loyalsock State Forest is not on Governor Corbett's agenda, he needs to understand that this magnificent area of core forest, wetlands and spectacular cascading streams belongs to the people of Pennsylvania," said Robbie Cross, President of RDA. "It must be protected ---it must be kept wild."

In conjunction with today's event, the coalition launched a new website ([www.saveloyalsock.org](http://www.saveloyalsock.org)) to educate the public about the threat of drilling pads, pipelines and industrial fracking poses to these pristine areas of Loyalsock State Forest.

After the press event, staff and volunteers from the environmental groups hand-delivered the petitions in support of the Loyalsock State Forest to Patrick Henderson, Governor Corbett's energy executive, who attended the event.

## Keep it Wild on Parade

By MANDY MAURER

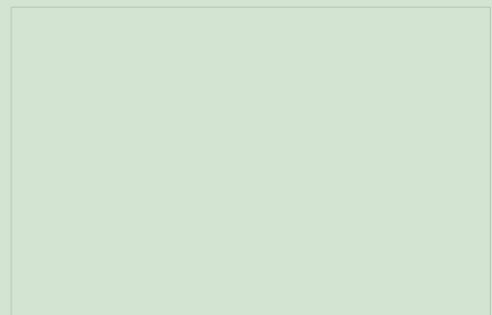
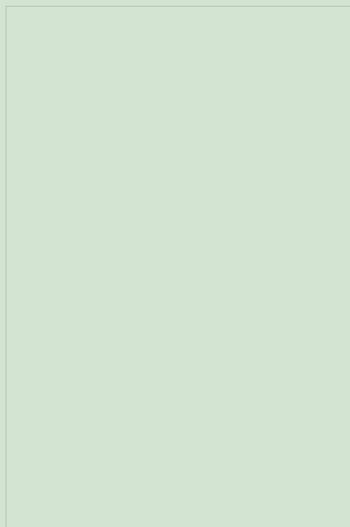
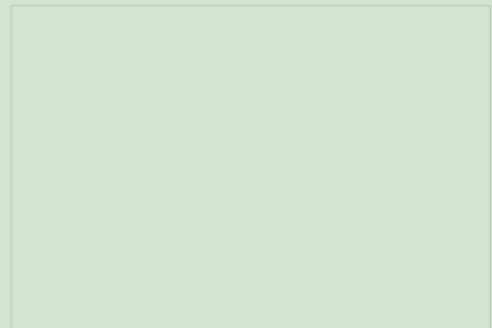
As part of our continuing community outreach efforts, RDA entered a float in the Lycoming County Visitors Bureau's 2013 Grand Slam Parade on August 14 to welcome the Little League Champions from around the world.

The Keep It Wild float featured a *Save Rock Run* theme and represented a beautifully recreated campsite, just like you might find in the Loyalsock State Forest. Thanks to the generosity of Bill Little of Fairfield Trailers and the team at Ft. Muncy Garden Center, the RDA float committee was able to put together a truly beautiful float.

And let's not forget the overwhelming support of our members! We sent out the call for riders and walkers and you responded in droves. Thank you so much for taking your time to show our community that there are a lot of people who care about our local special places and are willing to defend them.

*All parade photos courtesy of Richard Karp*

[See more photos of the parade](#)



noises or visible emissions that residents suspect are coming from natural gas operations in their community.

[Look here for details](#)

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**Tell Pennsylvania you want more public input on environmental permits!**

**Due by August 27**

Do you feel you have enough input into Pennsylvania's decision making on environmental permits? Do you have a handle on what's happening next? If not, now is the time to speak up!

[Click here to take action](#)



## IN THE NEWS

### This Week's Scoops

It's not what you say, but how you say it, at least when it comes to the Marcellus Shale Coalition's [2012 Year-End Workforce Study](#). According to MSC CEO Kathryn Klaber, [the report shows](#) "our industry's workforce is strong and growing." But Tribune-Review's Timothy Puko notes [in his article](#) that MSC's report shows Pennsylvania new hires were actually down in 2012, from 72% the year before to 56.8% last year.

If you work for Chesapeake Energy, you know those jobs are down, as new CEO Doug Lawler [cleans house](#) from the executive level to Bradford County employees, including the company's entire local community and landowner relations staff.

But while Chesapeake employees may be hunting for a job, Game

## Another Foul Ball From Anadarko

By KEVIN HEATLEY, Guest Columnist

We love the marketing folks from the natural gas industry! Nothing is more fun than to watch them try to bury their talentless lack of creative energy under a pile of public relations cash. They are especially entertaining when they attempt to market to children.

This year they were quite visible at the [Little League World Series](#) in Williamsport, Pa. For those who have never experienced an 11-year-old male offspring, it is difficult to try and describe the Little League World Series. The event is a riotous mix of international accents from foreign and exotic countries like Japan, Panama, and Texas. It's definitely something to experience in person as opposed to watching on ESPN.

Now, corporate marketing to kids is nothing new at the Little League World Series. Every year we are treated to [Tony the Tiger](#) encouraging proper childhood nutrition. Occasionally another furry corporate mascot, [Jared from Subway](#), makes an appearance to demonstrate that even if you took Tony's message too seriously, you still have a chance to undo the damage through proper patronage of the appropriate chain restaurant.

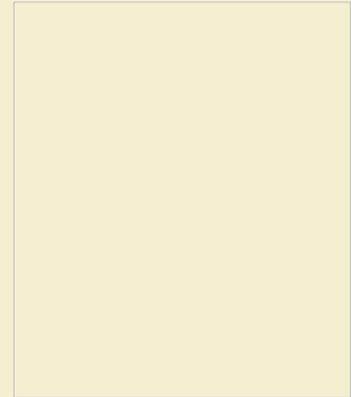
This year our good neighbors from ANADARKO (a nightmare of a marketing name) PETROLEUM brought us another warm and fuzzy emblem of corporate indoctrination. Emerging from a cloud of fugitive methane, the Anadarko "Energenie" made an appearance as a Little League pin this year. While we applaud the Energenie for wearing his hardhat in accordance with OSHA regulations, apparently his exposure to concentrated volatile organic compounds from compressor station emissions has damaged the ability of his lungs to capture oxygen, hence his blue skin pigmentation. If so, we applaud Anadarko for reaching out to the sufferers of childhood asthma.

Of course, if we were cynical, we might suspect that Anadarko modeled the "Energenie" on the lovable [Smurfs](#). If genetic testing does indeed confirm that the Energenie has Smurf heritage, a great irony emerges: Anadarko, the same company that is planning on destroying the ecological integrity of the Loyalsock State Forest in northern Pennsylvania, is apparently using forest-dwelling Smurfs as employees. Poor Smurfs! Driven by a lack of employment opportunities (fueled by obvious racial discrimination), they are forced to destroy their own forest homes in order to find gainful employment. Let us all hope Papa Smurf demonstrates the same intense concentration as the Energenie (note the tongue!) when he handles all the toluene and benzene on the frack pad.

So, two years after [Stephen Colbert sent Talisman Energy's coloring book here](#), Talisman Terry the Friendly Frackosaurus, [into extinction](#) by viciously skewering this corporate bit of childhood propaganda, we still have the natural gas industry pandering to children in a pathetic attempt to gain the public trust. While we understand the public relations desperation of an industry as brutally ugly as fossil fuel extraction, we do recommend they at least put some creative energy into their efforts. If they don't, we may just have to ask Colbert to help them along.

[Download Anadarko's booklet \*The Adventures of Energenie\* here](#)

[Look here for more Anadarko resources](#), including the Teenenergenie *Energize Your Future, a Resource Guide to Energy Education and Energy Careers*.



Commission employee William A. Capouillez [has two](#), one as Bureau Director of Wildlife Management and another as a leasing agent for private landowners. Capouillez claims there's no conflict of interest and though he doesn't need his state salary anymore, he's still at the job because he's "passionate about protecting wildlife."

But Kevin Sunday apparently lost his passion for state work. The former DEP deputy press secretary [left his post](#) to work for private PR firm Quantum Communications, his departure following that of his former DEP boss, [Michael Krancer](#).

Meanwhile, some Pennsylvania Democrats worry what to say about that darn [moratorium resolution](#) while [President Obama is in town](#). Eight state Democratic Senators [wrote a letter](#) to Democratic Party chairman Jim Burn expressing their confusion "as to why members of the Democratic State Committee would base such a strong stance on myth and misperception,"

Perhaps they've forgotten the [poll](#) indicating their [constituents support a moratorium](#), or maybe they've been listening to too many misperceptions themselves. After all, it's all in how you say it - and what you want to hear.

### **Join RDA**

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

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

## **Kids Speak Up On Fracking**

Fortunately, not all kids get their information from Anadarko. Listen to these kids speak up on hydraulic fracturing in a video posted by [Earthjustice](#) in response to the discovery of the [gag order](#) placed on the Hallowich family.



Kids Speak Up On Fracking

Then, listen to Stephen Colbert as he discusses the Hallowich children's gag order as only Stephen Colbert can do.



Click the picture to watch the video.

**New Phone Number!**  
**Contact RDA at**  
**888-332-1244**

### **RDA Newsletter**

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and advocacy outreach in 2013, please consider a tax-free contribution to our efforts.

regarding contents and to submit articles to be considered for publication in a future issue.

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