



# The Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DARKE COUNTY – OCTOBER 2013

Dues were due by July 1; do you still owe yours?

Please remit to:  
Mitzi Marshall

611 Fair Street

Greenville, OH  
45331

548-9172

\$55.00 per person



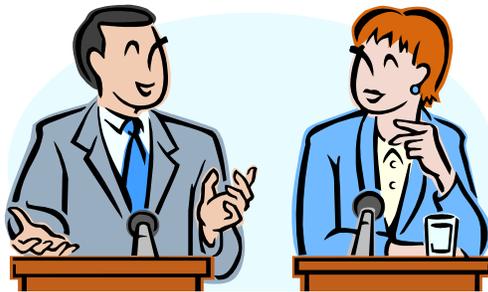
## MEETINGS

Usually held the first Tuesday evening of the month

at

5:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Greenville Public Library.

Next: Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>?  
(Election Day)



## CANDIDATES NIGHT Monday, October 21st 7-9 P.M.

American Legion  
325 N. Ohio Street  
Greenville

Races: Greenville City  
School Board  
&  
Local Issues

### **Candidates debating will include:**

#### Greenville City School Board :

Sue Bowman\*

Dave Ernst

Brad Gettinger

David Madden

Cindy Scott\*

\*denotes incumbent

**For further information log onto:  
[darkecounty.oh.lwvnet.org](http://darkecounty.oh.lwvnet.org)**

## IS OHIO BECOMING A WASTE DUMP FOR TOXIC AND RADIOACTIVE WASTE?

**Monday, 10/28/13 – Informational Forum  
7:00 p.m.**

**EUM Church**

1451 Sater St., Greenville, OH  
(Corner of Sebring-Warner Rd. and Sater St.)

Hydraulic Fracturing or “Fracking”, the process that delivers the so-called “clean” natural gas energy option unfortunately produces more than “clean” natural gas. During the process of “fracking” I understand that some of the millions of gallons of fresh water used for a single fracking flows back to the surface. This flow back contains much of the chemicals also used in the process to enable a more efficient capture of oil and gas. The liquid that returns also brings with it naturally occurring radioactive elements that would normally be contained deep within the earth’s surface layers. A well can be “fracked” many times over.

This waste water or “produced” waste must be disposed of safely. The production well continues to produce waste water over the course of the well’s lifetime. An average well produces 260 barrels of waste water for every million cubic feet of natural gas. And an average oil well produces 7.6 barrels of waste water for every barrel of oil. At that rate it takes 319 gallons of fresh water to produce 1 gallon of petroleum. An active well can produce a million or more gallons of wastewater a month according to Avner Vengosh, Div. of Earth and Ocean Studies, Nicholas School of the Environment, Duke University. He explained that the water is 10 to 20 times more saline than seawater, it’s naturally radioactive; and it can contain metals such as surfactants in concentrations far above those considered safe for drinking water or for release into the environment.

This waste contains quantities of undisclosed toxic chemicals which may include benzene, xylene, cadmium, mercury, arsenic, and radioactive elements such as radium. The radioactivity in oil and gas wastewaters has been found to exceed the U. S. EPA safe drinking limits by up to 3,600 times and federal industrial discharge limits set by the Nuclear Regulatory Agency by more than 300 times. It’s been reported that 9 of Ohio’s injection wells received liquid waste from 4 wells in Pennsylvania that had to send the drill cuttings to the U.S. Ecology landfill in Idaho. U. S. Ecology is a landfill that accepts materials high in radioactivity.

“Fracking fluid is injected into the well in one shot, but the extraction of produced wastewater continues over the well’s lifetime, he says. “How do you treat and

dispose of this large volume of radioactive brine that is continually generated?”

Did you know that in 2012, Ohio’s injection wells accepted 13,990,846 barrels of waste water from the oil and gas industry? This is equal to 587,615,532 gallons of waste. Nearly 60% of this waste (8,394,507.6 barrels), came from states other than Ohio; that’s more than half the “fracking” wastewater injected beneath our state coming here from out of state. According to production reports for the Pennsylvania Environment Protection Department, of the almost 22 million gallons of wastewater that Pennsylvania’s Marcellus Shale operators sent to disposal wells in the first six months of 2011, nearly 99 percent went to Ohio. At that time, Pennsylvania had only six active Class II wells, in part because Pennsylvania allowed companies to discharge brine into streams or take it to treatment plants up until 2010.

*“We citizens have a large responsibility for our delusion and our destructiveness, and I don’t want to minimize that. But I don’t want to minimize, either, the large responsibility that is borne by the government. ... Our governments have only occasionally recognized the need of land and people to be protected against economic violence. It is true that economic violence is not always swift, and rarely is it bloody, as the violence of war, but it can be devastating nonetheless. Acts of economic aggression can destroy a landscape or a community or the center of a town or city, and they routinely do so...”*

*...we need to give an absolute priority to caring well for our land—every bit of it. There should be no compromise with the destruction of the land or of anything else that we cannot replace. We have been too tolerant of politicians who, entrusted with our country’s defense, become the agents of our country’s destroyers, compromising on its ruin.”*

*--Wendell Berry, from his essay, “Compromise, Hell!” included in the collection of essays entitled, The Way of Ignorance*

In 2010 Ohio charged a disposal fee of 5¢ per barrel on Ohio brine and twenty cents for waste originating out of state. In 2012, Senate Bill 315 brought the price up to 10¢ on in-state waste and from 20¢ to a \$1 on out-of-state waste. These fees go directly to the state and our local communities receive none of these funds; yet they carry the burdens and risks these injections wells pose to our families, our property, and our environment? In January 2012, when asked how

Ohio would avoid becoming a dumping ground for out-of-state waste, Gov. Kasich told Bloomberg news that the U. S. Constitution prohibits interference with interstate shipments.

We've heard the argument that the energy companies wouldn't bring the waste to Darke County because it wouldn't be economically feasible? Was it economically feasible to truck the waste here from Pennsylvania and West Virginia? How much waste can one of these injection wells handle? And what is the true cost of injecting this poison into our land?

Do you own your subsurface rights? Could these rights have been sold before you became the owner of your property? Could some company you never heard of, who owns the subsurface or mineral rights aligned with your property, sell the rights beneath you to the oil/gas companies who may put in an injection well against your wishes?

If you would like more information on these injection wells and the likelihood of their presence in our county, you might want to attend the meeting sponsored by the Western Ohio Fracking Awareness Coalition on Monday, October 28, 2013 at the E U M Church at the corner of Sater St. and Sebring-Warner Rd. in Greenville. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will feature:

Teresa Mills, Field Director of the Center for Health, Environment & Justice, who was responsible for bringing about the U.S. EPA's decision to declare that Ohio law 3750.081 is in violation of the Federal Supremacy Clause which does not give Ohio the right to change the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act that exempted gas and oil companies from revealing their toxic chemicals to emergency responders.

Dr. James O'Reilly, Law Professor at the University of Cincinnati, who wrote "Free to be Fracked: The Curious Constitutional Consequences of Ohio Gas Law" as well as the ordinance that was passed to prevent waste-injection wells in Cincinnati.

Jack Shaner, the Deputy Director of the Ohio Environmental Council and a well-known lobbyist for environmental issues. He will direct his program to pertain to fracking and injection wells.

Come to the forum; share your concerns, get answers to your questions and gain an understanding of the potential risks to your health and to your home.



## **FREE MOVIE SCREENING!!**

**ALL WELCOME – BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013**

**9 A.M. AND 12 NOON @ THE EUM CHURCH**

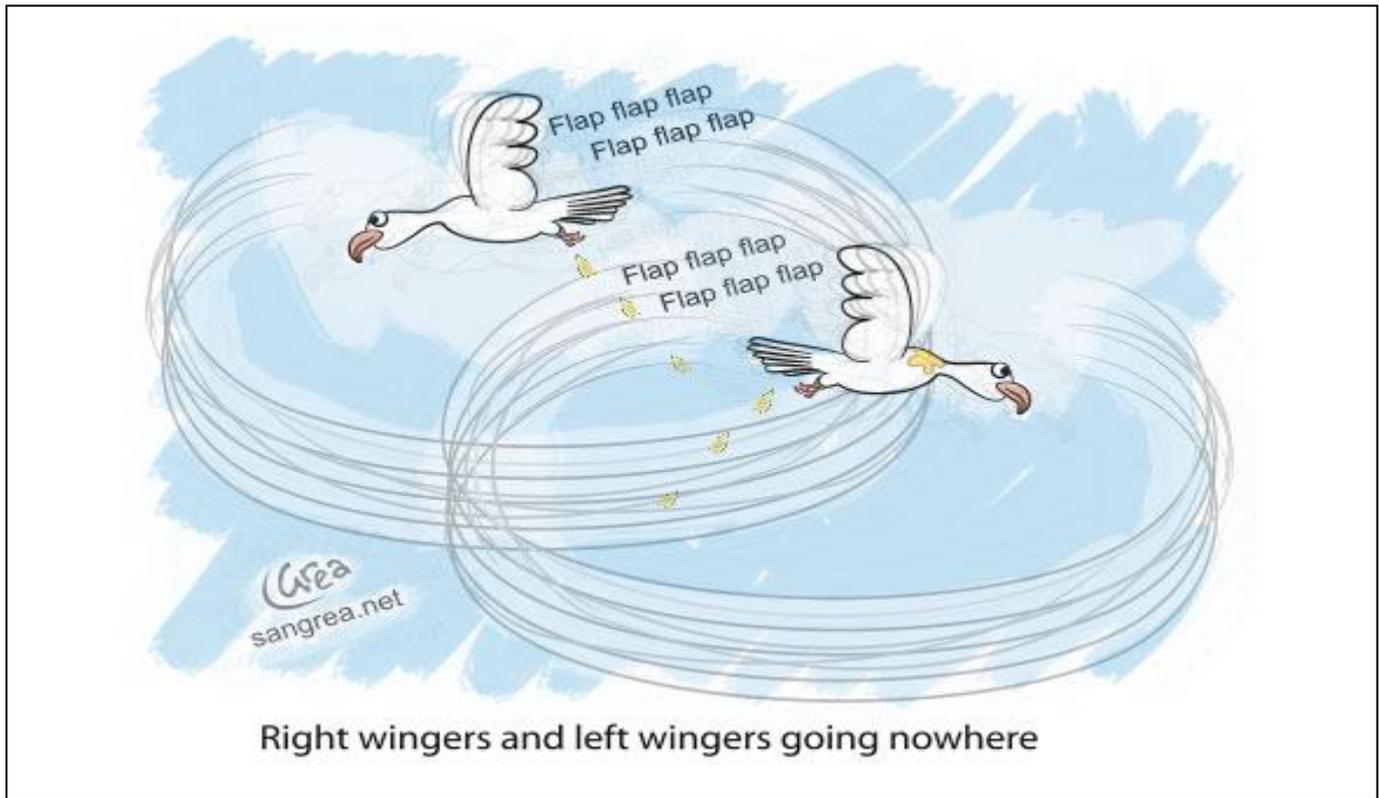
**COR. OF SATER ST. & SEBRING WARNER ROAD. GREENVILLE**

## **GASLAND PART II – SCREENING**

IN GASLAND PART II, Josh Fox examines the long-term impact of the controversial process of fracking including claims of poisonous water, earthquakes and neurological damage, placing his focus on the people across the globe who say their lives have been irreparably changed. Traveling from the Gulf of Mexico to the heart of Texas (including Dish, home to free TV service and some of the highest concentration of gas wells in the nation), out to Los Angeles (where fracking for oil is now occurring), and back up to the Delaware River basin (where he has a family home), Fox investigates the effects of this extraction method, as well as the industry's reaction to negative allegations. The film provides startling claims that fracking may lead to earthquakes in communities that have never experienced ones before. Video footage shows wells venting methane (a powerful greenhouse gas) into the atmosphere in massive amounts.

**OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup>—GLOBAL FRACKDOWN2**





**WORKERS FOR THE 2013 FALL CANDIDATES' FORUM**

**Monday, October 21, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**

**American Legion, 325 N. Ohio Street, Greenville**

Check-in (need one person) &

Greeters (need two people)-

1. Joan Klein 548-2381
2. Mary Bankson 548-5783

Moderator: Diane Johnson 546-4561

Moderator's Helper; Last Chance Screener:  
Mitzi Marshall 548-9643

Runners (two to four people)

1. Kathy Schmidt 564-5189
2. Jan Wells 692-5292

Timekeeper: Lyn Bliss 548-5687

Screeners (2-Ds, 2-Rs, 1-I and a runner)

1. Janey Christman-D 548-8542
2. Shirla Neff-R 548-5378
3. Jan Boyer-I 548-1916
4. Karen Brooks-R 467-7845
5. Anne Vehre-D 316-8131

Water Bearer: Kathy Schmidt 564-5189

## 2013-2014 CALENDAR (Tentative)

<u>SEPTEMBER</u>	<u>OCTOBER</u> <b>Candidates Night</b> October 21 <sup>st</sup> <b>Educational Forum</b> October 28th	<u>NOVEMBER</u>  Election	<u>DECEMBER</u> Christmas Party Mon., Dec. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Inn at Versailles
<u>JANUARY</u>  National Program Planning	<u>FEBRUARY</u>  Agriculture Study	<u>MARCH</u>  Local Services For Needy	<u>APRIL</u>  "A Place at The Table"
<u>MAY</u>  Annual Meeting	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>AUGUST</u>  Membership Party

## Welcome to the Affordable Care Act's Marketplace! [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)



You can apply for health coverage, compare all your options, and enroll in a plan in one streamlined application through the Health Insurance Marketplace. When open enrollment begins October 1, 2013, you can fill out your application and see the health coverage options available to you.

### 1. Create an account

First provide some basic information. Then choose a user name, password, and security questions for added protection.

### 2. Apply for Marketplace coverage

Enter information about you and your family, including your income, household size, and more. Use a checklist now to help you gather the information you'll need.

### 3. Pick a plan

Next you'll see all the health insurance plans and programs you're eligible for and compare them side-by-side. You'll also find out if you can get lower costs on Marketplace coverage.

### 4. Enroll

Choose a health insurance plan that meets your needs and enroll! Coverage starts as soon as January 1, 2014.