

# GAS DRILLING:

## COMING TO A FIELD NEAR YOU?



Field photos: © Marie Read

This is our home...



how will FRACKING change it?

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## This drilling is *different* – it's *industrial*.

Hydrofracturing ("fracking") is the high-pressure pumping of a chemical slurry into the ground, shattering shale to release gas. But the chemicals are not all recovered. **Where will they end up?** Well sites are industrial areas of 4–6 acres with roads, drill rigs, pipelines, storage tanks, compressors, dozens of tanker trucks, holding lagoons for toxic fluids, lights, and buildings for workers. And **thousands of wells may be fracked in the region within a few years.**

### Environmental Impacts

- **Fresh Water Used:** 2–9 million gallons used per well fracking, taken from our ponds, streams, lakes, and aquifers for free.
- **Chemicals:** 140,000 lbs. of chemicals per fracking: benzene, formaldehyde, toluene, and more. 65 are classified as hazardous waste. Many cause cancer or birth defects.
- **Water Pollution:** Many private water wells have been contaminated in areas near gas drilling operations.
- **Air Pollution:** Toxic gases—benzene, radon, acetone, hydrogen sulfide, and more are released at well sites.
- **Noise Pollution:** Pumps and compressors may run 24/7 for years to extract the gas. They are as loud as a cement mixer.

### Economic Impacts

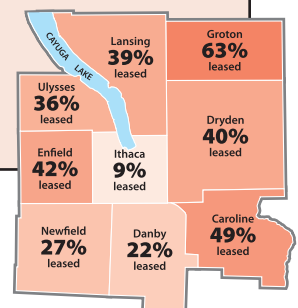
- **Decreased Property Values:** After drilling, nearby home and property values plummet.
- **Road Damage:** Each fracking requires 550–2,500 tanker truck trips. **Who will pay for road and bridge damage: our local taxes?**
- **Jobs Not Local:** Many gas industry jobs are specialized and use out-of-state companies & workers.
- **Emergency Response Costs:** Accidents happen, and chemical fires, spills, and increased traffic accidents will increase emergency response needs. **Who pays?**
- **Business Impacts:** Heavy industrial development can harm our local businesses: tourism, wineries & agriculture.

### Gas Industry Exemptions

The oil & gas industry, unlike all others, is exempt from the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Safe Drinking Water Acts, Superfund and Federal Right to Know Laws, and local land use & noise ordinances.

### Over 37% of the land in Tompkins County has a gas lease.

Go to [www.TCgasmap.org](http://www.TCgasmap.org) to see a map of all parcels leased in the last five years.



## **Concerned?** The time to get involved is *now!*

Contact the Shaleshock Citizens Action Coalition to learn more or get involved:  
[www.shaleshock.org](http://www.shaleshock.org) • [shaleshock08@yahoo.com](mailto:shaleshock08@yahoo.com) • Hotline: (607) 280-6695