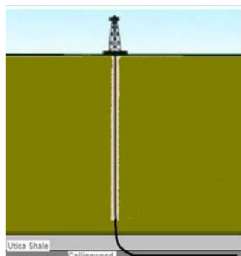


OUR MISSION

Helping people improve their lives through an educational process that applies knowledge to critical needs, issues, and opportunities.

LOCAL INFORMATION[Home](#)[Hydraulic Fracturing](#)**Introduction**

Welcome to the MSU Extension Oil and Gas information site

site

Renewed interest in Michigan natural gas exploration and development rose dramatically this spring with the news of a productive new well in the Collingwood Shale formation in Missaukee County. May 2010 lease auctions for mineral rights on state land in northwest Northern Michigan fetched record amounts. Although last year's excitement has settled down, there is still a lot of discussion about Michigan's natural gas potential. This page is designed to help landowners and local officials learn more about oil and gas leasing, the issues related to natural gas exploration and sources of information.

[Basic information about the controversial hydraulic fracturing process](#)

Upcoming Landowner Meetings

No events currently scheduled

Fact sheets and publications**From MSU Extension**

- [MSU Extension Oil and Gas Newsletter](#)
 - [March 2012](#)
 - [December 2011](#)
 - [September 2011](#)
 - [June 2011](#)
 - [April 2011](#)
 - [October 2010](#)
- [Oil, Gas and Mineral Rights brochure from MSU Extension and Michigan Farm Bureau](#)
- [Landowner Information for Oil & Gas Leasing](#)
- [Oil & Gas Leasing - Some Basic Considerations for Landowners - MSUE Bulletin E1512](#)
- [Oil & Gas Resources for Landowners](#)
- [Right of Way Information for Landowners](#)
- [Landowner Guidelines for Evaluating Oil and Gas Production Contracts](#)
- [Example Lease Addendums](#)

News

New MSU Extension oil and gas leasing video

A new video is now available to help landowners learn about oil and gas leasing. The one-hour presentation was developed and narrated by Curtis Talley, MSU Extension Farm Management Educator, and oil and gas leasing expert. [Click here](#) to watch the video.

MSU reports highlights potential oil and gas development economic impact

Expanding natural gas production could create thousands of jobs and generate millions of dollars in additional economic development and revenue, according to a report Michigan State University economist Bill Knudson. [Click here](#) to download the report.

Updated fracking regulations

Michigan DEQ announced new hydraulic fracturing regulations in May 2011. The new order increases oversight, reporting and recordkeeping requirements. [Click here](#) to see the order.

Landowner Alert!

An Oceana County landowner notified a MSU Extension Educator that they received an offer to lease their mineral rights in the mail. The letter asked them to approve the cash bonus offer by signing the letter and returning it. The letter also stated that if they signed and returned the offer, they were also approving the lease of the minerals. However, there was no lease to review, nor any lease terms offered, so they

- [Oil & Gas Lease Addendum](#) August 2010 (A lease addendum (exhibit) can be used to modify the terms of a lease. Each addendum (exhibit) will be different depending on the language in the underlying lease, the situation and the owner's goals)
- [Oil & Gas Income Tax Considerations for Farm & Forest Lands](#)

From Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment

- [Collingwood and Utica Permits and Applications as of June 6, 2011](#)
- [State of Michigan Oil & Gas Lease Summaries 2011](#)
- [Michigan Mineral Lease Information By County](#)
- [Stratigraphic Nomenclature for Michigan](#)
- [Notice of Intent to Retain Mineral Rights](#)
- [Well Site Surface Use Permit](#)
- [MDEQ Gaylord District Contacts](#)
- [MDEQ Gaylord District Map](#)

U.S. Department of Energy

- [Modern Shale Gas Development in the United States Primer](#)

From other sources

- **NEW** [Balancing the Economic Benefits with the Environmental Impacts of Shale Energy Development](#) - Ohio State University. An excellent webinar providing an overview of shale gas economics, issues and trends.
- **NEW** [Understanding and Negotiating the Oil and Gas Lease](#) - Cantafio Law. An excellent publication written in layman's language primarily regarding leasing. One of the topics and discussions is sight drafts, which is the big problem with payments to a lot of landowners in Northern Michigan.
- [Check List for Oil & Gas Mineral Leases by Michigan Farm Bureau](#)
- [Permits Required for Oil & Gas Wells](#) - Antrim Conservation District
- [A Resident's Guide to Drilling](#) (May 2010) - [meredith-coalition.org](#)
- [The Range Resources Sample Marcellus Well Completion Disclosure Form](#) (Range Resources is a large oil and gas production company that is actively drilling oil and gas wells in the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania and in the Barnett Shale in Texas. They have agreed to release to the public the list of constituents contained in their hydraulic fracturing fluid. The Range Resources Sample Marcellus Well Completion Disclosure Form includes a well record, the well log and the constituents of the hydraulic fracturing fluid)

were approving a lease that they have not yet seen.

MSU Extension warns landowners that signing and returning these types of letters without a review of the underlying lease by an experienced oil and gas attorney can result in a very poor lease that lacks, among many things, environmental protections and results in substantially less income. Unfortunately, these types of offers are becoming more common and they are being offered in many counties.

Links

[Penn State Cooperative Extension Natural Gas web site](#)

[Oil and Gas Leases](#)

[National Association of Royalty Owners](#)

[Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation \(industry oriented\)](#)

[Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Office of Oil, Gas and Minerals](#)

[Michigan Oil and Gas Association \(O&G Industry News\)](#)

Ask oil and gas questions [Enlarge](#)

eXtension

Ask an Expert

Question

Location and County

Michigan

Mecosta

Presentations

Presentations from the oil and gas leasing

workshops

Cheboygan and Emmet Counties, June 2, 2010

- [Introduction to oil and gas leases](#) - Curtis Talley, MSU Extension
- [Oil and gas leasing issues](#) - Susan Topp, Attorney
- [The Utica Gas Play](#) - Andrea Sullivan and Andy Stempky, DNRE

Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties, June 24, 2010

- [Oil and Gas Contracts - Issues for Landowners](#) - Dr. David Schweikhardt, MSU
- [Unconventional Shale Gas Development](#) - Mel Kiogima, DNRE
- [A Lawyer's Perspective - What A Landowner should know](#) - Philip R. Rosi, Attorney
- [Geology of Michigan Shales](#) - Michael W. Barratt, Michigan Oil and Gas Producers Education Foundation
- [Fracture Treatment](#) - Darel Willison, Superior Well Services