

The What's in the Water poster was originally released in 2010 - this information will bring you up to date!

The New York State and Delaware River Basin situation.

...isn't there a ban in New York? ...and now a drilling ban in the DRB?
I'm in NY or in the DRB, do I still need to pay attention to this issue?

Yes! NY achieved a regulatory ban (in December 2014), on high volume hydraulic fracturing - not a ban on all drilling or gas/oil well stimulation. There are over 50,000 gas/oil wells in NY and drilling is not stopped. Still allowed is fracking (using less than 300,000 gallons of water), pipelines, compressors, chemical staging areas, gas power plants, and other infrastructure **including import** of oil and gas drilling waste to NY and other DRB states.

There is now a BAN of drilling in the whole Delaware River Basin (DRB) parts of NY, PA, NJ and DE that feed water to the Delaware River, as of Feb. 25, 2021, via new regulations passed by the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) that controls that sort of activity in the DRB.

DCS sued DRBC: and **we WON!** DRBC issued regs Dec 7, 2022, that **would allow the import of toxic radioactive liquid fracking waste into the DRB, and DCS said NO! - our lawsuit ended that!** A complete ban is closer - no drilling, no frack-waste transport through the Delaware Basin and no water export. Please see **DamascusCitizens.org** for more details.

Fracked gas is coming into NY and the DRB from PA and other states - with **radon** in it and radioactive drill cuttings with heavy metals and toxic chemicals are sent to landfills in NY state (outside the DRB). Health and property values near infrastructure are reduced. Chronic toxic air emissions are every day, all day, water damage, too. Now the DRBC cannot allow liquid fracking wastes into the DRB. Health and environmental impacts from frack wastes abound. These wastes cannot be cleaned and are toxic.

AND the biggie, climate change, caused by high and higher carbon in the air - every month of this year has been the HOTTEST since record keeping began - with more and more extreme weather events! Methane (natural gas is over 90% methane) causes over 100 times CO2's global warming (over its 10 year actual life) and when leaks are measured, they are 3 to 9% of total production - causing accelerated climate change. All gas usage adds to climate change.

Hello...maybe I better consider doing something about all this?

The NY, PA, NJ, and DE Governors and the Federal component are the voting members of the DRBC - **make sure they know what YOU want (and that you are a voter!).** See **DamascusCitizens.org** for how to reach your governor.



DAMASCUS CITIZENS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

CLEAN WATER, AIR AND LAND ARE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

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Racial and Social Justice /S Environmental Justice.

Our communities and our environment are under attack. Environmental impacts are much greater on Black, brown, (POC) and impoverished communities.

Why is this?

One big reason is that these communities are often targeted for harmful facilities, such as incinerators, refineries, gas and oils facilities/ compressor stations, etc...

The gas and oil industry has publicly advised its companies to avoid more wealthy communities because they have the resources to fight back.

Climate Change! There is no time left! Now more than ever with a **rampant pandemic**, black, brown (POC) and poor **communities with fewer resources suffer more from climate change and from the covid-19 pandemic.** They are less likely to be able to work from home, are more likely to be 'essential workers' so they're exposed more. Also inequities in healthcare mean people with underlying health issues get sicker and die more often.

It doesn't have to be this way!

What to do?

First - recognize the damages being done.

Second - education. You must become aware of and understand what's happening so you can spread this information to your friends, family, and neighbors

Third - the power to VOTE. Voting for candidates - maybe you? - that will fight for your interests, and the betterment of our society. Once elected we have to continually push our elected officials to do what is right.

We must know enough to ask the important revealing questions! Asking questions for your communities' benefit and pushing for corrective policies will progress your goals for better health with a better environment.

Note where you are, in the Delaware River Basin? in what state? in the Susquehanna River Basin? ...or? - it makes a difference! - for some issues inter-state commissions may be in charge, or local, county or state governments have to be your focus.