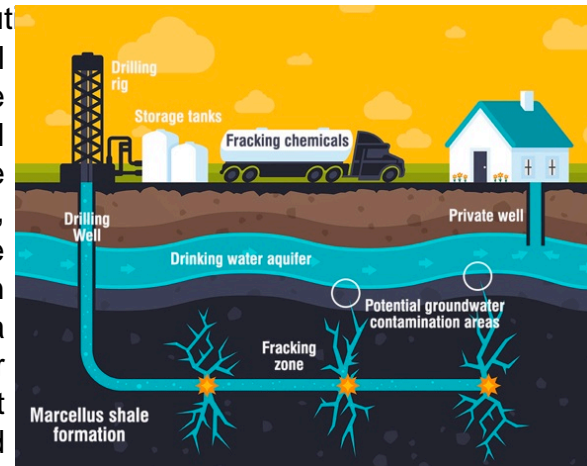


Introducing – West Laurel Socially Conscious Movie Nights

At the good suggestion of multiple WLCA members, especially Linda Ashton, WLCA will be showing movies about currently relevant topics. MNCPPC, which owns the West Laurel Community Building, has agreed we can do this there three times next year, on Thursday January 19, Thursday April 20, and Tuesday August 15, at 7:30 PM. Mark your calendars!

Our movie on the evening of Thursday January 19 will be "Groundswell Rising", an especially timely "flick" since Maryland's moratorium on fracking -- or hydraulic fracturing, the controversial gas-extraction process -- ends in October 2017. Environmentally concerned state lawmakers and other citizens are hoping to permanently ban fracking in Maryland during the next legislative session. They cite the growing irrefutable evidence of fracking causing groundwater and deep well contamination (including from the cyanide used in the fracking slurry), earthquakes, air pollution, and making it hard to remove the ban. The best-known potential fracking areas in Maryland are in Western Maryland atop the Marcellus Shale deposit, but there is also considerable potential fracking in Prince George's and Ann Arundel counties from the Taylorsville basin, on the Eastern Shore from the Delmarva basin, and some in Montgomery and Frederick counties from the Culpepper basin. Happily, Mary Lehman's bill to ban fracking in Prince George's County has passed, but fracking remains a serious issue for much of the rest of the state, and thus also for us. If you are on the fence about this issue, or think it does not matter, do come to see "Groundswell Rising", a well-researched documentary about the true cost and consequences of this drilling procedure. Linda Ashton is kindly loaning us the DVD.



The topics of WLCA's April and August movie night will be announced in the winter and spring Hotlines.