

Businesses Against Fracking: Vote Yes on HB 1325/SB 740 to Ban Fracking in Maryland

February 28, 2017

To Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

We, the undersigned owners of Maryland businesses, write to express our support for a ban on hydraulic fracturing in Maryland. There is no evidence that hydraulic fracturing, commonly known as fracking, can be made safe or effectively regulated. Gas drilling poses unacceptable risks to the health of our families, neighbors, employees, visitors, and environment. If allowed, we fear fracking will destroy sustainable economic development in which agriculture and tourism have figured prominently.

Shale gas development in Maryland would completely industrialize mainly rural areas, and likely lead to severe health impacts: 84 percent of studies on the health impacts of fracking indicate hazards, elevated risks, or actual adverse health outcomes. This will lead to unwelcome and, we worry, catastrophic effects on perceptions about Maryland as a tourism destination.

We recognize the need for job creation, and look forward to working with local leaders on initiatives that promote a sustainable economic future. But fracking is not the solution, as evident in neighboring states that started fracking in the last decade: Chevron, currently the largest natural gas lease-holder in Maryland, cut 40 percent of its workforce in Pennsylvania since 2014. Fossil fuel extraction follows a boom-bust cycle that leaves communities burdened with health problems, damaged infrastructure, and a weaker economy for the long-term.

A truly sustainable economy depends on a clean and healthy environment, and fosters jobs in agriculture, tourism, and renewable energy. This is already happening in Maryland, from the mountains of Garrett County to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. Fracking has no place in our vision of a healthy and prosperous Maryland.

We strongly urge the General Assembly to pass a statewide ban on hydraulic fracturing in Maryland during the 2017 legislative session.

Garrett and Allegany County Businesses

1 Real Estate Source LLC, McHenry, Melvon (Chip) Smith
A Place to Eat, Frostburg, Chris Aguilar
Absalom's Emporium, Frostburg, Joe Pastor
All Earth Eco Tours, Friendsville, Crede Calhoun
All Seasons Sports Cards, Frostburg, Larry Garton
Allegany Pawn, Cumberland, Joseph Litten
Allegheny Trail House, Frostburg, Jessica Clay
Andrea Carla Tesar, LMT, Oakland, Andrea Carla
Animal Crackers Pet Grooming, Accident, Patrice J Wells
Anna Belle Petunia Head, Accident, Annie Simcoe
Appalachian Valley Natural Products, Friendsville, John J. Croskey
Azad's of Cumberland, Cumberland, David Love
Backbone Food Farm, Oakland, Katharine Dubansky
Baltimore Street Collectibles, Cumberland, Faye H Cole
Basecamp Coffee Company, Cumberland, Hayden Orf-Ulm
Bello's Portraits, Oakland, Michael W. Bello
Blue Sky Ventures, Inc, Oakland, Susan Thomas
Boy's Auto Service, Cumberland, Shannon D. Sneden

Brenda's Body Shop, Oakland, Brenda Brosnihan
Brenda's Pizzeria, Oakland, Brenda McDonnell
Cabin Fever Antiques & Collectibles, Oakland, Margie Henson
Cahook, LLC, Cumberland, Scott D. Haines
Callis Auto Detailing, Oakland, Robert Callis
Carey Run Forge, Frostburg, Kenny Braitman
Clara's Garden, Oakland, Jo Mitchum
CLS Ventures, Inc., Friendsville, Linda Carr
Country Parson Honey, Mountain Lake Park, Kathleen Gibbs & Chip Lee
Cross MD Enterprises, Friendsville, John J. Croskey
Cumberland Trail Connection, Cumberland, Douglas A. Hutchins
Dante's, Frostburg, Erin Gotay
Deep Creek Cellars, Friendsville, Nadine Grabania & Paul Roberts
Deep Creek Lavender Farm, Accident, Anne Davidson
Dennett Road Manor, Oakland, Eliabeth Goldsborough
Douglas of Southern Maryland, Great Mills, Stacy Seigel
Elderbird Restorations LLC, Cumberland, Rob Barnes and Anthony Taglaferro
Eloqui, Inc., Mountain Lake Park, Mark Stutzman

Embassy Theatre Co., Cumberland, Mark Baker
Energy Health & Fitness, LaVale, Michael S Love
Favorite Things Corner Gift Shoppe, Oakland, Maureen
Troublefield
Fielding Construction, Cumberland, Eliot Fielding
FireFly Farms, Inc, Accident, Mike Koch
Fireside Deli and Wine Shop, Swanton, Maryellen miller
Frostburg Fiber Depot, Frostburg, Jennie Clark
Frostburg Inn, Frostburg, John Wampler
Frostburg Palace Theater, Frostburg, John Brode
Furniture Medic, Cumberland, James Bender
Garrett County Orthopedics, Oakland, Dona Alvarez
Garrett Events, Swanton, Kyle Yost
Garrett PetMinders, Mtn Lake Park, Joseph Clark
Gianni's Pizza, Frostburg, Joseph Crawford and Amanda Glass
Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant, Frostburg, Mark Witt
Grammy's Attic, Frostburg, Laryssa Sheehan
Gunter Hotel, Frostburg, Tylor Dinteman
Hair Styling By Arlene, Cumberland, Arlene Johnson
Hidden Treasures, Cumberland, Jennette Kerns
High Mountain Sports, Oakland, Steven Green
Hilltop Auto and Collision Center, Grantsville, Derek Brown
Hobbitat, Oakland, William H. Thomas
Humberson Homes LLC, McHenry, Melvin (Chip) Smith
Hush Skin Care Studio, Cumberland, Tiffany Ritter
Independent Ink, Frostburg, William R. Bevan, Jr.
Insight Solutions, Oakland, James R. Stanton
Integration Studios, Frostburg, Sue Heiss
J-R's Custom Screenprinting & Embroidery, Frostburg, John
Robinson
Kebbie's Diaper Bag, Cumberland, Ferre Benson
La Bella Vita, Cumberland, Lisa A. Bocelli
Landis Office Center Inc., Cumberland, Todd McKenzie
LaVale Pharmacy, LaVale, John Stanley
Lennox East, LaVale, Alex McDonald
Lepley Dance and Training, Cumberland, Nancy Lepley
LNH Enterprises, Oldtown, LNH Enterprises
Lynn Lais, potter, Grantsville, Lynn Lais
M. Edelman Art, Grantsville, Mike Edelman
Main Street Books, Frostburg, Fred Powell
Marvens Floor Centre, Inc., Cumberland, Sherrie Marvis
Metz's Electrical Service LLC, Oakland, Mark Metz
Michael R. Stefan LLC, Friendsville, Michael R. Stefan
Mountain City Coffeehouse & Creamery, Frostburg, Yashmi Shah
Mountain Hollow Store, Friendsville, Jody & Jacqueline Ross
Mountain MD Kennels, LLC--Home of Husky Power Dogsledding,
Accident, L. L. Herdering
Mountain Shine Creative, Cumberland, Shannon Cook
One Star Alley, LLC, Lonaconing, Eric Wilkinson
Permanent Solutions Studio, Cumberland, Kristal Weaver
PM Press, Frostburg, Craig O'Hara
Precision Rafting Expeditions, Friendsville, Roger Zbel
PUGRIDGE PLACE, Oakland, Gregory L. Carrico
Random Stuff, Cumberland, Karl Gargulinski
Ray's Jeweler's, Cumberland, Irma Dezen
Red House School Antiques, Oakland, Jack Henson
Rob Michael (State Farm Insurance), Oakland, Rob Michael

Rock Excavating & General Services, McHenry, Gary & Dawn
Beitzel
Rosewords, Oakland, Rose Gordy
S&S Market, Friendsville, Freda Sines
Sacred Meadow Montessori Children's House, Accident, Carolyne
Stolzenfels
salt and pepper studios LLC, Grantsville, Regina Holliday
Savage River angler LLC, Swanton, Philip Daley
Savage River Outfitters, Swanton, Mike Evans
SavageMan Triathlon, Deep Creek, Greg Hawkins
Schoolhouse Earth, Friendsville, Stephen Rodeheaver
Sculptor at Spruce Forest Artisan Village, Grantsville, Gary Yoder
She's So Pretty, Lonaconing, Mindy Wilkinson
Shift-A Farm to Table Eatery, Frostburg, Jessica Clay
Sincell Publishing Co. Inc., Oakland, Donald W. Sincell
Smithwood Co., Friendsville, Robert L. Smith
Spectrum Design Frostburg, Andrea De Palatis
Spring Creek Outfitters, Oakland, Harold Harsh
Strawser Brook View Farm, Oakland, James N. Strawser
Sunshine Daze, Cumberland, Alison Vollmerhausen & Stacey
Friend
Swallow Falls Inn, Oakland, Rose Elsey
Tattoo Nouveau, Frostburg, Jesse Nuessen
Tech Re-Up, LaVale, Richard Bonnett
The Alley, Oakland, Tiffany Blackden
The Bruce House Inn, Cumberland, Pamela Reynolds
The Cornish Café, Oakland, Jessica Beachy
The Happy Hostess, Cumberland, Cassie Conklin
The Social Studies Store, Cumberland, Ernest Gusella and Tomiyo
Sasaki
The Vapor Room, Frostburg, Jessica Seminerio Grapes
Thomas B Dabney, Jr. Esq., Oakland, Tom Dabney
Vacation Surfing Inc., McHenry, Mike Harvey
Vision Quest Studios, Friendsville, Carol Calhoun
Water Street Café, Friendsville, Chris Stewart
Western Maryland Music Center, Cumberland, Y J
Who?Ra Farm, Friendsville, Kim Alexander
Wholesome Harvest, Frostburg, Susan Snow
Windrush Online, Friendsville, Crede Calhoun
Wynter's Haven, LaVale, Heather Warnick
Youghiogheny Wood Products LLC, Grantsville, Jesse

Other Maryland Businesses

AKRS Electrical Solutions, Myersville, David Nau
Atlantic Organic Food Center, Mount Airy, Helen Rose
Barkley Law Office PC, Mount Airy, Timothy Barkley
Big Larry's Eatery, Leonardtown, Larry Rhodes
Bowie Home Improvement Inc, Bowie, Beth Schmitt
Butterbee Farm, Pikesville, Laura Beth Resnick & Jascha Owens
Calleva Inc., Poolesville, Matthew Markoff
Centaur Graphics LLC, New Market, Heather Wurzer
Chandler Designs, Woodsboro, Dorothea Mordan
Chesapeake's Bounty, Saint Leonard, William Kreamer
Claiborne Signs and Designs, Claiborne, James Richardson
College Plaza LLC, Rockville, Matthew Hearn
Conservation Community Consulting, Berlin, Dave Wilson
Dylan's Oyster Cellar, Baltimore, Dylan Salmon

Echotopia LLC, Baltimore, Diane Wittner
EJM Service, LLC, Woodsboro, Ed Mordan
Elf-Man LLC, Frederick, Richard Jefferies
Ewe Leave Me in Stitches, California , Melanie
Fenwick Street Used Books and Music, Leonardtown, Joe Orlando
French Media Productions LLC, Rockville, Justin Nicholas French
Gallagher Design, Frederick, Patrice Gallagher
Garfinkel + Associates, Inc., Bethesda, Stephen Garfinkel
Glenwillow Inc, Jefferson, Kim Stewart
Gracefully Green, LLC, Silver Spring, Toni Bailey
Grazy Days Family Farm, Union Bridge, Alicia Barmon
Hawks Hill Creamery, Street, Kim Galbreath
HEX Ferments, Baltimore, Meaghan & Shane Carpenter
Holistic Veterinary Services, Clarksville , Jennifer Carter
Holt Real Estate, Crofton, Patricia Holt
Home Elements, Leonardtown, Darrin Beck
Jennifer Foster, DDC, Mount Airy, Jennifer Foster
Karma Farm, Monkton, Jonathan B. Shaw
Key City Compost, LLC, Jefferson, Philip Westcott
Lafayette Law Office, LLC, Prince Frederick , Renee Lafayette
Lili Sheeline, Realtor, Prince Frederick, Lili Sheeline
Live Green, Chevy Chase, Suzanne Parmet
Love Dove Farms, Woodbine, John Dove
M&M Pizzeria & Creamery, Midland, Michelle McGowan
Marcus Landscape Architecture, Clarksville, Lauren Marcus
Marianna Peplinski, Realtor, Germantown, Marianna Peplinski
Marigold, Leonardtown, Katy Galloway
McBride and Gill Falcon Ridge Farm, Westminster, Nancy
McBride & Stanton Gill
Mid Atlantic Hubcap & Wheel, Silver Spring, Steven A French Sr
Milkhouse Brewery at Stillpoint Farm, Mt. Airy, Carolann
McConaughy
MOM's Organic Market, Rockville, Alexandra DySard
Moon Valley Farm, Inc. , Cockeysville, Emma Lise Jagoz
Namaste Massage Studio, Frederick, Marc A. Melcher
Natural Zing, Mount Airy, Jeff Rose
Neighborhood Sun, Silver Spring, Gary Skulnik
Next Step Produce, Newburg, Heinz Thomet
Nicolo Whimsey, Brandywine, MD, Nick Newlin
One Straw Farm, White Hall, Joan Norman
Opal Fine Art, Leonardtown, M. Jane Rowe
Pace, Inc., Elkridge, Eric
Painted Skys Design, Monrovia
Patricia J Vazquez, Independent Contractor, Brandywine, Patricia
Vazquez
Pax River Aikikai, Lexington Park, David Norton
Photography By Carlisle, North Beach, Carlisle Wiley
Rachel Smith Photography, Baltimore, Rachel Smith
Radiant Life Productions, LLC, Rockville, Ann McGregor
Ramsay Construction, Baltimore, Aaeron Robb
Rick's Stylz & Cutz LLC, Callaway, Rick Smith
Roots Market, Clarksville, Katie Smallwood
Simply A Man's Productions, Frederick, Samuxl Parkxr
Smart Beginnings Business Solutions, Camp Spring, Robin Lewis
Susan Robinson Yoga, Huntingtown, Susan Robinson
Takoma Pet, Silver Spring, Steve Tucker
The Atlas Restaurant Group, Baltimore, Don McCafferty

The Natural Market, Timonium, Steve Schwartz
Thrive Yoga, Rockville, Jessica Snow
Tomandy Gallery, Fredeick, Tomas Gomez Veintimilla
Tuhala's Well, Frederick, Helgi Townsend
UNION Craft Brewing, Baltimore, Jon Zerivitz
Vertical Dance Company, Callaway, Shekriyyah Greaves
Wiley Productions, North Beach, MD, Linda Wiley