

Roughly 200 tanker trucks deliver water for the fracturing process.

A pumper truck injects a mix of sand, water and chemicals into the well.

Natural gas flows out of well.

Recovered water is stored in open pits, then taken to a treatment plant.

Storage tanks

Natural gas is piped to market.

0 Feet

Water table

Well

1,000

2,000

3,000

4,000

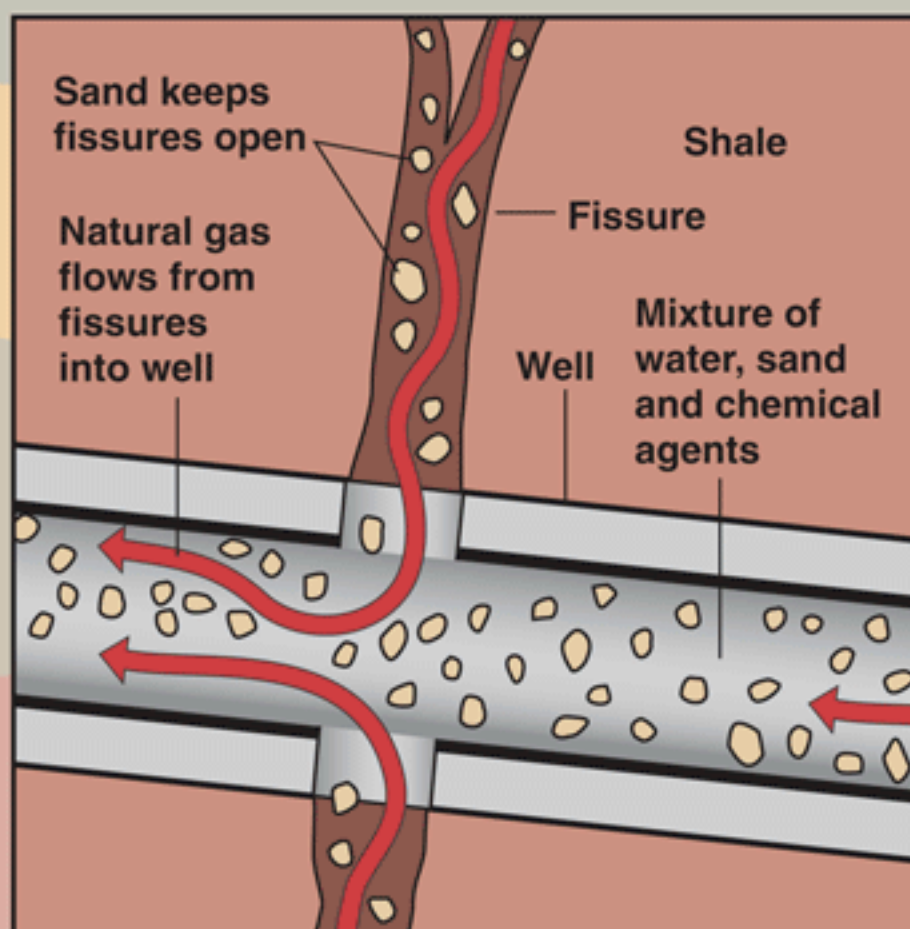
5,000

6,000

7,000

Hydraulic Fracturing

Hydraulic fracturing, or "fracing," involves the injection of more than a million gallons of water, sand and chemicals at high pressure down and across into horizontally drilled wells as far as 10,000 feet below the surface. The pressurized mixture causes the rock layer, in this case the Marcellus Shale, to crack. These fissures are held open by the sand particles so that natural gas from the shale can flow up the well.



Well turns horizontal

Marcellus Shale

Fissures

The shale is fractured by the pressure inside the well.