

Frac Sand Mining In Wisconsin

a threat to both local and national communities

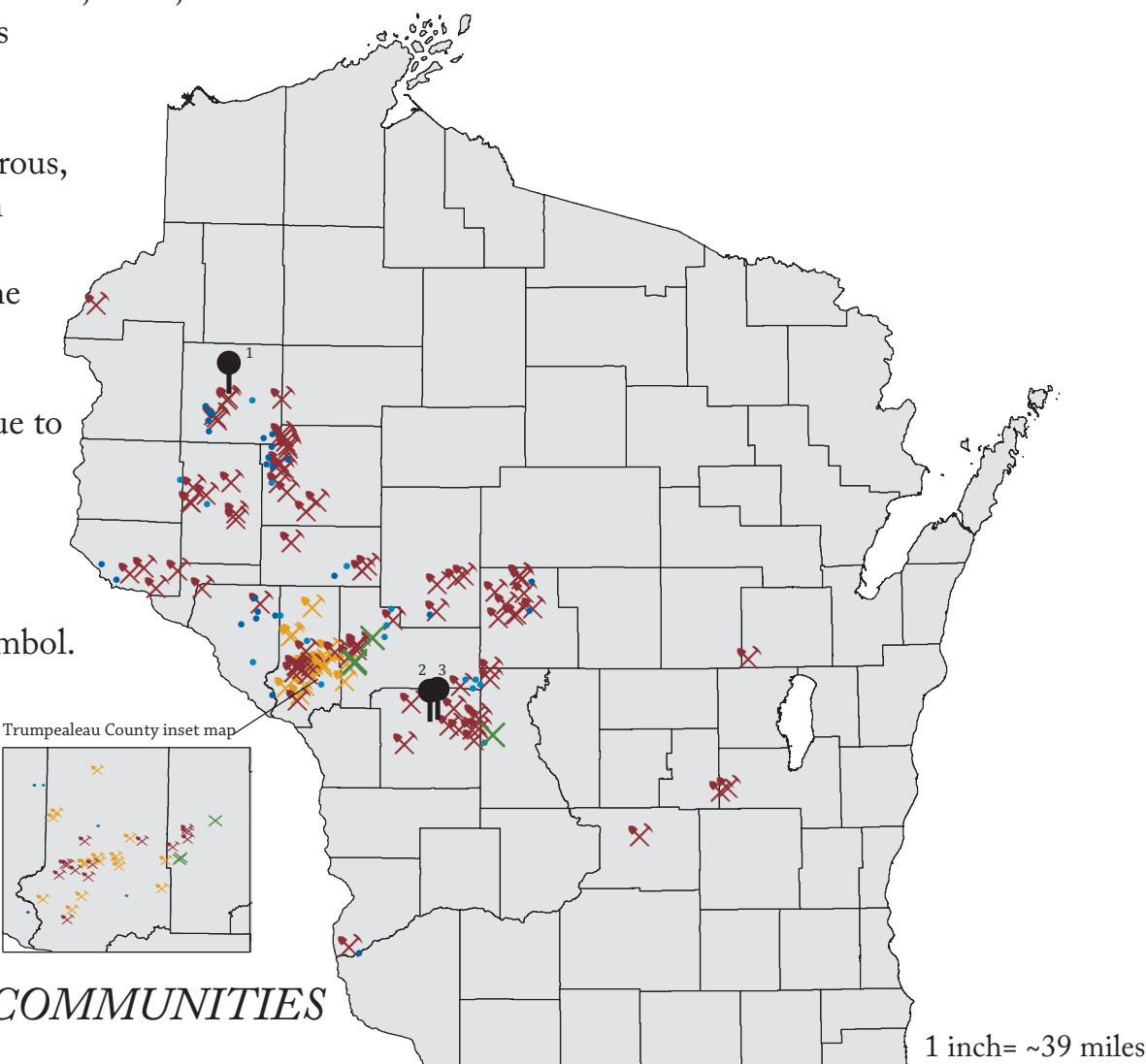
Hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking”, is a process by which long, deep wells that are dug deep into the earth are blasted with sand, water, and chemicals to release natural gas or shale oil that is otherwise difficult to extract.

The global energy industry currently puts millions of dollars in developing more places to keep their dangerous, extreme methods of energy extraction in place, and in the last few years Wisconsin has become a big target. It turns out that the same sandstone that makes up the breathtaking formations in the Western Upland and Central Plain regions of Wisconsin is perfect for the fracking process. These energy companies will continue to desecrate our beautiful landscapes and endanger local communities, unless we stop them.

Mining and processing sites that are currently in operation in Wisconsin are designated with the ✕ symbol. Sites that are currently in development to become operational are designated as ✕ .

The darker blue dots (•) represent sites that have been permitted for development and the lighter blue dots (•) are sites that have been proposed. The ✕ symbol represents developments that have been stalled, by community efforts or otherwise.

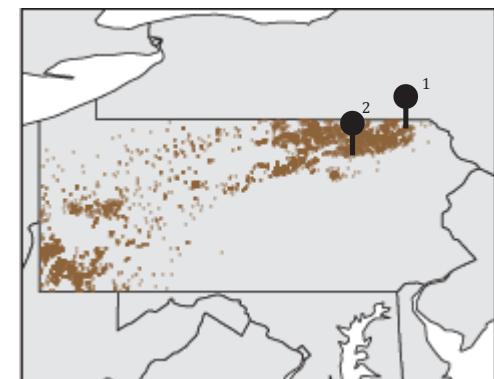
VOICES FROM LOCAL FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES



- 1 Cooks Valley, Chippewa County, WI: Residents have reported cases of asthma, chest tightness, wheezing, and coughing as a result of the silica dust in the air from the nearby Badger Mining Corp. sand mine¹.
- 2 Oakdale, Monroe County, WI: Community member Judy Carey reports: “Your clothes are full of [silica dust], you can’t roll your car windows down. The breathing part of it isn’t good. You can just feel it in your throat, feel it in your nose.”²
- 3 Tunnel City, Monroe County, WI: Resident Brian Norberg attempted to mobilize the community against Procore, but was no match against their money. “He felt completely defeated that he could not protect the community from them moving in and destroying our lives.”³

STORIES FROM FRONTLINE COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION

Pennsylvania

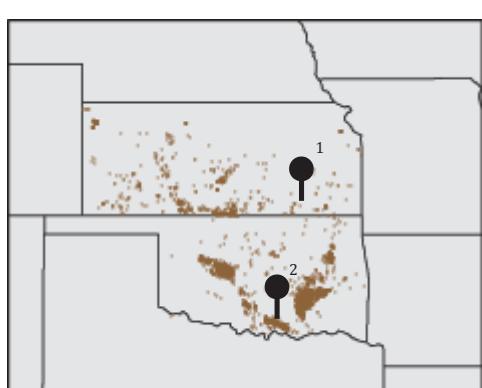


Each brown dot on the following maps represents a hydraulic fracturing site or processing facility, including gas wells, pipelines, shale oil extraction sites, etc.

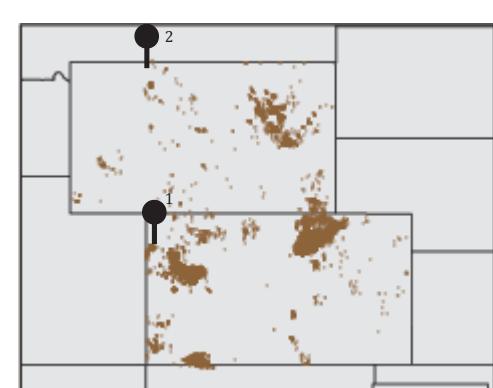
- 1 Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania: Communities in Susquehanna County are continuously exposed to hazardous gases, chemicals, and industrial wastes. Reports of illness, neurological symptoms. Extensive damage to the natural environment⁴.
- 2 Lycoming County, Pennsylvania: Poor communities in Lycoming County were first banned from having guests, and then forced to relocate without proper notice or adequate compensation. The land they were living on was sold from underneath them⁵.

Kansas & Oklahoma

- 1 Butler County, Kansas: Homeowners have filed lawsuits against NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership for contaminating their well water after refusing to clean up the area after a pipeline burst. The well water in this county smells strongly of gasoline and is said to be flammable⁶.
- 2 Carter County, Oklahoma: Reports from farmers and pet owners of strange and sudden deaths of livestock and pets have increased noticeably since the shale play in Oklahoma has been developed upon⁷.



Colorado & Wyoming



- 1 Rio Blanco County, Colorado: Encana, the natural gas subsidiary of Puckett Land Company, had so recklessly contaminated the areas and soil around their sites with drilling waste and other pollutants that the State of Colorado actually ordered the company to remediate and reclaim the land they were using⁸.
- 2 Clark, Park County, Wyoming: Windsor Energy Group’s Crosby 25-3 gas well blew out, creating a ten-million cubic foot plume of groundwater contamination, poisoning aquifers, private wells, and the 300,000 gallons of water a day that is dumped into the Line Creek drainage, which flows into the Yellowstone River⁹.

Projection for WI map: NAD 1983 HARN Wisconsin TM. Projection for other state maps: USA Contiguous Lambert Conformal Conic.
WI mine site data courtesy of the Wisconsin Center for Investigative Journalism. Thanks to Carl Sack for pointing me that way.
Basemap data courtesy of geocommons.org. Fracking site data and much of the information provided here courtesy of Fractracker.
Created by Erik Kramer, December 2013.