

FrackTrack Establishes New Well Water Registry for Homeowners in PA

In March 2011, MDN wrote a review and recommendation of the then-brand new FrackTrack online mapping service. The service visually shows (on Google Maps) gas well locations throughout Pennsylvania, along with details for each well like the exact name and address of the well, permit information, any known violations, etc. You can read MDN's original review [here](#).

The same organization is now hard at work on a new project to catalog privately-owned water wells and springs used as water supplies throughout Pennsylvania. FrackTrack uses data available from the state, but has found many holes and gaps in the data, and so they have launched a new project to encourage home owners to register their wells and springs with the service.

From the FrackTrack website:

Landowners that utilize water wells or springs for their water supply are encouraged to sign up and register their water source... We plan on utilizing this data to augment existing data sets to enhance policies designed to protect public and private water supplies. After registering you'll be able to login and document your water source.

§208 of the Oil and Gas Act (1984, P.L. 1140, No.223) governs the protection of water supplies and how the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) handles landowner complaints.

Pursuant to §208(c) well operators are presumed to be liable for the pollution of water supplies within 1,000 feet of an oil or gas well if pollution results within six months of completion or alteration of the well in question.

In order to preserve your rights as a landowner, it is essential for you to get your well water tested PRIOR to gas development activity beginning. For your convenience we've aggregated the DEP's list of certified labs which is easily searchable at our [Water Testing Data Portal](#).

PA residents can register their wells and springs at: www.fracktrack.org/h2olog.php.

Source: Marcellus Drilling News