

# Statistics of Fracking

## SO WHAT IS IT?

Hydraulic fracturing, or **“fracking”**, is the process of drilling and injecting fluid into the ground at a high pressure in order to fracture shale rocks to release natural gas inside.



## TO THE SITE

Each gas well requires an average of **400 tanker trucks** to carry water and supplies to and from the site.






### HEAVY LOAD

It takes **1-8 million gallons of water** to complete each fracturing job.



An illustration of a fracking site. In the center, a black rectangular box with a white border contains text. To the left, there are two large white cylindrical tanks on a brown ground. To the right, there are two tall red rectangular structures. In the background, there are grey buildings and a small fire icon. At the bottom center, there is a small grey structure with a chimney. The overall style is flat and modern.

## FRACTURING SITE

The water brought in is mixed with sand and chemicals to create fracking fluid.  
**Approximately 40,000 gallons of chemicals** are used per fracturing.



LEAD

URANIUM

MERCURY

ETHYLENE GLYCOL

### FRACKING FLUID

Up to **600 chemicals** are used in fracking fluid, including known carcinogens and toxins such as...

RADIUM

METHANOL

HYDROCHLORIC ACID

FORMALDEHYDE





DOWN 10,000FT

The fracking fluid is then pressure injected into the ground through a drilled pipeline.

THE MATH

**500,000**

*Active gas wells in the US*

×

**8 million**

*Gallons of water per fracking*

×

**18**

*Times a well can be fracked*

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**72 trillion gallons of water**  
and  
**360 billion gallons of chemicals**  
*needed to run our current gas wells.*



A cross-sectional diagram of a wellbore in a shale reservoir. The wellbore is shown as a vertical pipe that turns into a horizontal section at the bottom. The surrounding rock is dark brown and contains numerous jagged, dark grey cracks representing fractures. A white text box is positioned in the upper part of the vertical wellbore section.

### SHALE FRACTURING


The mixture reaches the end of the well where the high pressure causes the nearby shale rock to crack, creating fissures where **natural gas** flows into the well.



## CONTAMINATION

During this process, **methane gas and toxic chemicals** leech out from the system and contaminate nearby groundwater.

Methane concentrations are **17x higher** in drinking-water wells near fracturing sites than in normal wells.

A diagram showing a cross-section of the ground. A dark grey vertical pipe represents a well. To the left, a blue pipe branches off horizontally, representing a distribution line. The blue pipe contains several small white and red spheres, representing contaminants. A red rectangular box with white text is positioned on the blue pipe. The background is a solid brown color representing soil.

TO THE CITY

### DRINKING WATER

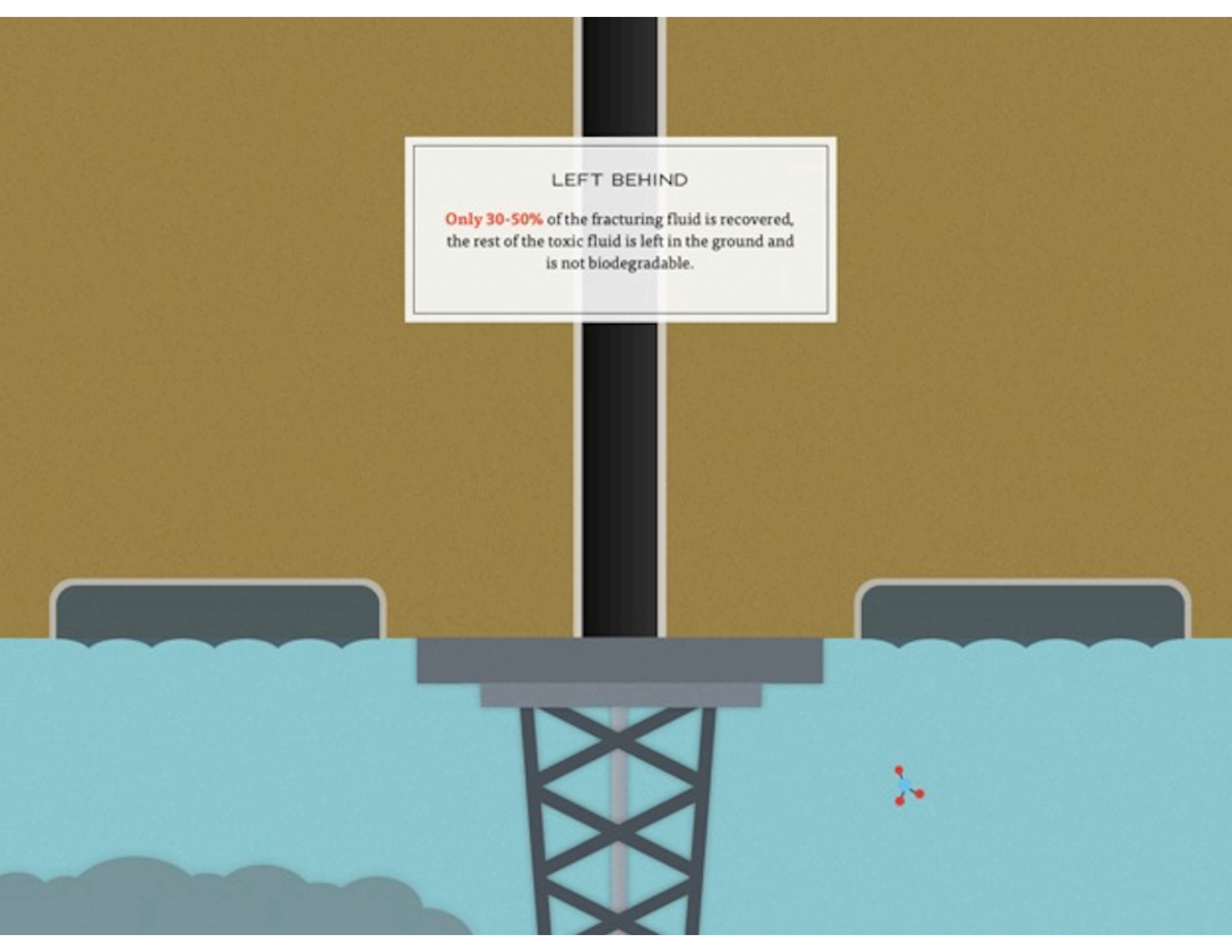
Contaminated well water is used for drinking water for nearby cities and towns.


There have been over **1,000** documented cases of water contamination next to areas of gas drilling as well as cases of **sensory, respiratory, and neurological damage** due to ingested contaminated water.



## LEFT BEHIND

**Only 30-50%** of the fracturing fluid is recovered, the rest of the toxic fluid is left in the ground and is not biodegradable.



The background is a solid teal color. In the center, a black lattice tower structure is visible, extending from the bottom towards the top. There are three dark grey, fluffy clouds scattered across the scene: one on the left, one on the right, and one at the bottom. Three small molecular models are also present, each consisting of a central blue atom bonded to three red atoms in a triangular arrangement. One is on the left, one is on the right, and one is at the bottom right.

The waste fluid is left in open air pits to evaporate, releasing **harmful VOC's** (volatile organic compounds) into the atmosphere, creating contaminated air, acid rain, and ground level ozone.

In the end, hydraulic fracking produces approximately **300,000 barrels** of natural gas a day, but at the price of **numerous environmental, safety, and health hazards.**



## DON'T THINK IT'S WORTH IT?

Help support the FRAC Act (Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act) which would require the energy industry to disclose all chemicals used in fracturing fluid as well as repeal fracking's exemption from the Safe Drinking Water Act.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL OFFICIALS

JOIN OR SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ORGANIZATION

(courtesy of GaslandTheMovie.com)

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### RESOURCES

"Hydraulic Fracturing 101"

Energy From Shale.org

Gasland The Movie

Marcellus Shale Coalition

"Unpacking Health Hazards in Fracking's Chemical Cocktail"

Website designed and coded by [Linda Dong](#)