

Media Alert

October 15, 2011

For immediate release

Olentangy Watershed Forum 2011: The Facts about Shale Gas Extraction

For the past eight years, the Olentangy Watershed Forum has connected citizens and experts who wish to explore issues that impact the quality of life in the watershed.

The keynote topic for the forum is shale gas development. Expert speakers, Ralph Haefner, Supervisory Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey and Steve Schumacher, Agent with OSU Extension of Belmont County, will separate fact from fiction on various techniques to extract this resource and its potential effects. In addition to our keynotes, topics to be covered this year include updates on MORPC's Balanced Growth Plan, the Fifth Avenue Dam Removal Project, and a new project geared to assist construction professionals, developers and regional planners with compliance for the new Olentangy permitting requirements.

This forum is for local residents, water resource professionals, township officials, landowners, and farmers who want to learn about water quality issues in the Olentangy Watershed and what effective planning strategies can be employed.

When: Friday, November 4th, 2011 from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm. Doors open at 8:30 am.

Where: Del-Co Water Company Water Treatment Facility
6682 Olentangy River Road, Delaware, OH 43015

In the next twenty years, how we develop and maintain our communities will determine the health of the Olentangy River. Why is this important? The river serves as our drinking water supply, provides recreational relief from the urban environment and is an essential link for wildlife survival.

Forum Specifics:

The Forum is free but registration is required. Seating is limited so walk-ins will be accommodated if space is available. Lunch is available for a \$5 donation, payable at the door. Please indicate your lunch preference when you register. A vegetarian option is available. Lunch provided by Judy's Café.

- Registration: Pre-registration requested by **Monday, October 31st**. Registration will be available online at www.olentangywatershed.org or by phone through Del-Co Water at 740-548-7746, press "0" to reach the receptionist. Questions? Email info@olentangywatershed.org

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