

Private Water Supplies to be Tested for Impacts from Natural Gas Drilling as Result of Grant

As the development of natural gas takes place in regions throughout Pennsylvania, the state's county conservation districts are mobilizing necessary resources to ensure the safety of residents and the environment. In Clearfield County, the conservation district received a \$150,000 grant from the Colcom Foundation to pre-test private water supplies in eight northwestern counties experiencing a heavy influx of exploration and drilling for natural gas.

Testing will take place at private wells and springs for approximately 800 residents throughout the eight counties. Currently, the Clearfield County Conservation District has continuous monitors in streams in the region to obtain baseline data for one year in the tributaries near these wells and springs.

Data from these tests will be available for residents who suspect or are concerned about any changes to their water as a result of drilling for natural gas. The District has reached out to residents and local and county government officials to ensure they reach as many residents as possible under the funding.

The eight counties where testing of private water supplies will take place include: Jefferson, Clearfield, Centre, Elk, Cameron, Clinton, Potter, and McKean.

