

Press Release

Release Date: Immediately

Contact:

Dave Messersmith

Extension Educator

Penn State Extension in Wayne County

570-253-5970 x 4110

## **UNDERSTANDING METHANE MIGRATION ISSUES IN PENNSYLVANIA**

The Wayne County Oil & Gas Task Force is pleased to announce a planned seminar on 'Understanding Methane Migration Issues in Pennsylvania' on Tuesday, October 18 at the Wayne County Park Street Complex, 648 Park Street, Honesdale. The seminar will start at 7:00 PM and end at approximately 9:00 PM.

Presenting the seminar will be Mr. Burt Waite, Senior Geologist and Program Director at Moody and Associates, Inc. and Mr. Brian Oram, licensed Professional Geologist and owner of B.F. Environmental Consultants, Inc. Topics of discussion will be: understanding stray gas in Pennsylvania, a review of recent research on methane migration in association with Marcellus shale development, and water testing strategies for homeowners.

Mr. Waite directs a staff of geologists and hydrogeologists relative to the environmental and hydrologic implications of energy resource development. In the past 38 years Mr. Waite has worked closely with natural resource developers to minimize adverse impacts on ground and surface water resources while encouraging full development of the resources. Burt was the lead author of the Oil and Gas Pollution Abatement Program study conducted on behalf of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in 1985.

Mr. Brian Oram is a licensed professional geologist, licensed well driller, and a professional soil scientist and the owner of B.F. Environmental Consultants Inc. The company is a family owned Pennsylvania-based environmental and geological consulting company that has been serving the region for over 23 years. Mr. Oram holds degrees from Wilkes University and The Pennsylvania State University. He specializes in large scale regional initiatives related to water use and reuse, water quality monitoring and tracking, and citizen based monitoring and education programs. Mr. Oram is currently working on the implementation of a Citizen Groundwater Database, development of low-cost water quality sensors, and research related to brinewater and acid mine drainage treatment and reuse.

Admission to the seminar is free and open to the public. Please pre-register by calling the Penn State Extension office in Honesdale at 570-253-5970 x 4110 or email [WayneExt@psu.edu](mailto:WayneExt@psu.edu).