



Silica and other dust from frac sand mining drifts over Trempealeau County

Two-thirds of all frac sand production is in Wisconsin; the sand is used nationally and worldwide to mine for oil and gas. But our more than 130 frac sand mines (and processing sites) have very little oversight. Not only does this mining level bluffs and hills, each mining site uses large amounts of our water resources: from 290 to 3,000 gallons per minute. Moreover, silica dust from this type of mining can lodge in the lungs and potentially cause cancer and other types of irreversible lung damage (usually long after exposure occurs). Because large-scale issues like this are too big for any one nonprofit group to handle, **Community Shares of Wisconsin's** (CSW's) groups work together.

The **Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters Institute** and **1000 Friends of Wisconsin** educate lawmakers about how frac sand mining is wreaking havoc on air, water quality, and public health. **Midwest Environmental Advocates** files lawsuits to represent the people whose lives are most seriously affected by frac sand mines. The **Sierra Club Foundation-John Muir Chapter, Clean Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice, and Physicians for Social Responsibility-Wisconsin** educate the general public about how frac sand mining affects all of us. And to complete the picture, the **Wisconsin Democracy Campaign** tracks campaign donations to Wisconsin's lawmakers—in recent years donations from frac mining and natural gas companies have grown over 1200%.

In addition, all of these groups encourage their many members to be involved in their communities and connect with their elected representatives to make their voices heard. With these CSW groups and other nonprofits working with concerned citizens, we hope in the future to see better environmental and health protections for all of us.