



SAVE THE DATE

Marcellus Shale Academic Research Conference May 30-31, 2012 DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh, Pa.

The development of the natural gas in the Marcellus and Utica formations is reshaping the social, economic and environmental conditions of many communities throughout the region.

Researchers have the opportunity to begin examining the impacts of unconventional natural gas exploration and production. Perhaps more importantly, researchers have the opportunity to engage with industry, policymakers, community leaders, and key stakeholders to influence how development proceeds and its implications for the region's communities, economy, and environment.

The Second Annual Marcellus Shale Multi-State Academic Research Conference will bring researchers and Extension educators from academic institutions together to identify gaps in current Marcellus-related research, prioritize research agendas, and determine ways to advance those research agendas.

Specifically, this conference will offer participants the opportunity to: 1) develop white papers that identify future research priorities and that can form the basis for future research proposals; 2) build new collaborations among researchers across states and institutions; and 3) engage Extension educators in discussions about future research priorities related to shale gas development.

Conference participants will join one of four Working Groups to discuss priorities, needs and opportunities for future natural gas-related research. Working Groups will focus on:

1. Changing Communities: Assessing social, economic, and health impacts
2. The Changing Landscape: Planning and designing for energy development
3. The Changing Environment: Ensuring water and air quality
4. The Policy Environment: Evaluating policy management strategies for complex systems

Prior to the conference, a "position paper" will be provided to participants in each Working Group to frame group discussions and provide background for development of the final white papers.

This conference is a collaboration between Cornell University, Penn State University, and West Virginia University.

Conference registration will open Thursday, March 1. Registration fee is \$120 through Monday, April 30; \$140 from May 1 on. Registration fee includes meals but not lodging.

Updates can be found at: <http://marcellus.psu.edu/research/researchConferences.php>

For further information, contact:

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