



Fairfax VOTER

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Fracking Pros and Cons: Is There a Way to Satisfy Both Sides?

The controversy over “fracking” has become a very local issue. Recent proposals to allow hydraulic fracturing in the George Washington National Forest have brought the issue into our backyards. Because the GW is located entirely within the watershed of the James and Potomac Rivers which supply water directly to 262,000 people in or near the Shenandoah Valley. Also, more than 4.5 million people in northern Virginia, Washington D.C., and Richmond rely on the forest to protect the headwaters of our water supply. This timely study defines terms, lays out the pros and cons as identified by various experts, and suggests some ways a compromise might work. See if you agree.

Calendar

October

- 1 4600 Duke St. community election
10th District Meet & Greet
- 3 Reston Community Center election
- 4 **Briefing and At-Large meeting**
- 6 VOTER deadline
- 8 -14 **Unit meetings**
- 9 8th and 10th District Meet & Greet
- 10 LWNCA Board meeting and Presidents’
lunch
- 12 Clifton Day Festival
- 13 LWV-VA/AARP U.S. Senate debate
- 14 Voter Registration deadline
11th District Meet & Greet
- 15 **Board meeting**
- 16 10th District Meet & Greet
- 21 8th and 11th District Meet & Greet,
- 24 LWNCA reception for LWVUS Board
- 28 Last date to apply for an absentee ballot by
mail, fax or email, 5 p.m.
- Nov. 1 Last day to vote absentee In-person, 5 p.m.

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Presidents' Message



LWVFA volunteers are great! We want to thank so many LWVFA members who worked very hard during the summer and the month of September. We have been kept busy with so many opportunities for helping our League and communities. Thanks for helping at Meet and Greet events; community festivals; voter registration activities; and condo and community elections. We still need your help, so don't hesitate to volunteer again!

We want to thank Charleen Deasy and Wendy Fox-Grage (your unit coordinators) for their work on the Kick-Off. They spent hours gathering the material and forms to help the units work smoothly for the coming year. We are continuing to explore new unit possibilities – a virtual one, one on college campuses, a lunch bunch, etc. Could you be an organizer?

Thanks also go to our Voter Service Team which has been working diligently. Peggy Knight planned and coordinated, with various partners, our "Meet and Greet" events for the House of Representatives candidates, and Mary Jane Cleary scheduled the volunteers. Sidney Johnson organized registration events as part of Voter Outreach and created new signs and materials. *What's on the Ballot* was again compiled by Ronna Pazdral. Sheila Iskra worked to get the candidates' biographies and question responses in the *Fairfax Times* (look for it in a few weeks), on our website, and on www.vote411.org. This committee would love to have more members on their team.

As we said last year, we hope you will continue to include LWVFA activities in your schedule. There are so many ways to participate:

- Read the current program materials and attend a unit meeting to express your opinions
- Volunteer to help at a community or condo election
- Sign-up to help at a "Meet and Greet" near you or attend and bring a friend
- Register voters or pass out *What's on the Ballot*
- Check out our website, our Facebook page and Vote411

- Read and respond to the League Updates at all League levels

Enjoy life and keep active in the wonderful month of October!

Julie and Helen

Co-president Kelly Testifies Before Fairfax County BOS on Carry-over Funds for 2015

On September 9, LWVFA Co-President Helen Kelly testified at the Board of Supervisors' hearing on the Carryover Budget. She stated the League supports the County Executive's proposal to use \$3.5M of carryover funds to purchase new voting equipment in FY2015 rather than in FY2016. Not only will there be a budget savings of \$2.5 M in FY2016, but also use of carryover will allow the Office of Elections to test the new equipment and to train election officers to use it well before the 2016 presidential election. She also argued that Fairfax County should use carryover funds to begin paying salary supplements to Public Defenders, who have a higher average workload than Prosecutors but earn significantly less. Her full testimony can be found on the LWVFA website.

LWVFA Fairfax VOTER 2014 - 2015

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Please e-mail address corrections to the office
or call 703-658-9150

Election Season Opens with “Meet and Greet” the Candidates Sessions

The “Election Season” is in full swing. Are you tired of sound-bytes and campaign hype? Then attend a Meet and Greet and get the facts directly from the candidates. Real contact with the candidates is coming to a venue near you. The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), AARP Virginia, Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia (CAPAVA), American Association of University Women (AAUW) and other community organizations are co-sponsoring a series of Meet and Greet events for the candidates and voters in Congressional Districts 8, 10, and 11. All certified candidates in these districts have been invited. Go to our website: <http://lwv-fairfax.org/2014MeetandGreet.html> to see a complete list of dates and co-sponsors.

The format offers real contact with the audience. Each candidate will give a three-minute introductory statement followed by a general question-and-answer period with questions coming from the audience. Time for one-on-one contact between voters and candidates follows the question-and-answer period. Previous candidates appreciated the opportunity to share the stage with their opponents. One voter, grateful to learn the candidates’ positions on various topics, commented: *“It was useful. I vote so often with no sense of the candidates--relying on those set vanilla prepared statements of issues.”* Another citizen shared, *“This was the first time I ever got a good comparative sense of candidates, most of whom I never see in person.”*

The Meet and Greet events began in September but there are still five more scheduled for October. They are listed below.

Come out and meet your candidates and hear first-hand their positions on the issues. This is an important League function and we need your support by attending the events and volunteering to help at the events. For suggestions or questions about the Meet and Greet Events, please contact Peggy Knight, peggy.knight1@verizon.net, 703-532-4417. To volunteer at an event please contact Mary Jane Cleary, dakotamjc@gmail.com or (703) 442-9515.

October 1, 7-9 pm

Clifton Town Hall, 12641 Chapel Rd, Clifton, VA 20124 for 10th Congressional District.

October 9, 7-9 pm

McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean, Virginia 22101 for 8th & 10th Congressional Districts.

October 14, 7-9 pm

Westminster at Lake Ridge, 12191 Clipper Drive, Lake Ridge, VA 22192 for the 11th Congressional District.

October 16, 7- 8:30 pm

Leesburg Senior Center, 102 North Street NW, Leesburg, VA 20176 for the 10th Congressional District.

October 21, 7- 9 pm

Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, 6488 Landsdowne Ctr, Kingstowne, VA 22315 for the 8th Congressional District.



The People’s Debate **Senator Mark Warner and Ed Gillespie Accept People’s Debate Invitation Statewide Broadcast on October 13**



RICHMOND - The League of Women Voters of Virginia and AARP Virginia are pleased to announce Senator Mark Warner and Ed Gillespie have both accepted the groups’ invitation to debate challenger Ed Gillespie during a statewide television broadcast on October 13.

The statewide-televised debate to be held at 7 p.m. on October 13 in Richmond. Media partners for the debate are WCVE-TV (PBS) and WTVR-TV CBS 6. The debate will be held at the WCVE-TV studio.

New Voting Equipment in Fairfax County This Fall

By Olga Hernandez

Voters in Fairfax County will see new election equipment this fall. Fairfax City citizens will continue to vote on WinVote equipment.

The County purchased new machines for \$6.5 million to cover all precincts. The LWVFA was invited to look at the options before the large purchase was made. Most voters in Fairfax County will notice little difference as they will continue to cast an electronically scanned ballot and personally slip it into the new machine to be scanned and tabulated. The equipment, the DS200, is made by Election Systems and Software (ES&S) and is being deployed countywide; in fact, it was in use for the August 19 special election in the 48th district. Hearing impaired, blind or disabled voters will be able to vote on the Express Vote machine (no, it is not faster) which has a screen allowing voters to mark a ballot that the voter then takes and slips into the DS200 just like other voters. Thus, everyone uses the same technology.

Voters will continue to check in at the front table on the electronic poll books after showing an appropriate Photo ID. The list of acceptable Photo IDs is available on the www.sbe.virginia.gov website. Please make sure you check your own documents and ask friends and family to do so, to be election ready. If you do not have a photo identification that is suitable, contact the Fairfax Registrar's office at 703-222-0776 or the Fairfax City office at 703-385-7890 to apply and receive a FREE photo ID to use to cast a ballot. If you need one, get it now.



Copresident Julie Jones, Olga Hernandez and Anne Kanter represented LWVFA at a recent 48th Congressional District gathering at George Mason University.

STOP THE VIOLENCE II: Children Are the Silent Victims

PROTECTIVE ORDERS NEEDED

By Barbara Nunes, Domestic Violence Chair

On April 28, 2014, Legal Services of Northern Virginia sponsored a program on Protective Orders with emphasis on effects on children. Judges from Fairfax County JDR Court were present and topics included were long-term effects on children plus related subjects.

One tends to link domestic violence with adults abusing each other and we forget the impact on children. Some interesting facts: Last year in Fairfax over 1,000 protective orders were filed—and 80% included children, the silent victims. Another interesting fact—95% of those on death row in the U.S. were childhood victims of domestic violence.

The program included information about parents fleeing across state lines, very easy to do in this area. Each state defines what determines the home state and in Virginia, if the child has lived in Virginia for six months, Virginia is the home state.

Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement (UCCJEA) was developed in 1997. All states and the District of Columbia, with the exception of Massachusetts, have enacted it, and it is a significant improvement for battered women.

Protective Orders offer temporary relief and are not the complete answer. They are not custody or property agreements. They are court ordered. Children have been used in the protective order process. The judges all agree they did not like to see children in protective order hearings. However, attorneys may want to use them to establish the need for Protective Orders.

Parents may not be aware of the impact on the children, thinking they are not hearing or seeing the arguments or abuse. However, when interviewed, a large majority of the children were aware of the abuse. They may be reluctant to testify against a parent, although parents many times use their child to make their case.

Domestic Violence Hotline
703-360-7273

Fracking Pros and Cons: Is There a Way to Satisfy Both Sides?

By Karole McKalip, Elizabeth Lonoff, and Rona Ackerman

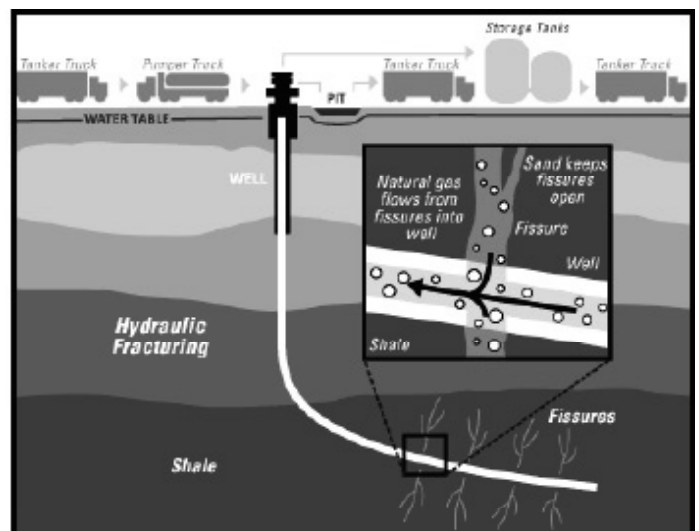
Hydraulic fracturing or fracking represents two methods of natural gas extraction. The first is a process that involves drilling a deep hole in dense shale rock and then blasting a mixture of water, sand, and chemicals down inside the hole at extremely high pressure to fracture or crack open the surrounding rock and release natural gas and in some cases oil into the water so it can be captured. A second technique called horizontal drilling allows companies to drill vertically, then laterally through shale formations. This second method also uses a mixture of water, sand, and chemicals. These methods can be applied to wells for shale gas, tight gas, tight oil, and coal seam gas. The term “fracking” is currently used to refer to either method. They are considered cost efficient ways to access natural gas and other fuel deposits that might otherwise be inaccessible. Fracking has increased known gas reserves. Some believe that these gas supplies will last for more than 100 years.

“Many sandstone, limestone and shale formations far below ground contain natural gas, which was formed as dead organisms in the rock decomposed. This gas is released, and can be captured at the surface for our use, when the rocks in which it is trapped are drilled. To increase the flow of released gas, the rocks can be broken apart, or fractured. Early drillers sometimes detonated small explosions in the wells to increase flow. Starting in the 1940s, oil and gas drilling companies began fracking rock by pumping pressurized water into it. Approximately one million American wells have been fracked since the 1940s. Most of these are vertical wells that tap into porous sandstone or limestone. Since the 1990s, however, gas companies have been able to harvest the gas still stuck in the original shale source.”¹

“Although the first version of hydraulic fracturing was patented in the USA in 1949, it has come into greater use over the last decade in combination with other advances in drilling technology (such as horizontal drilling), which have made many reserves of oil and natural gas economically viable that were previously considered prohibitively difficult to exploit. These reserves are in many cases contained within shale, a formation low in permeability and porousness, which previously made tapping the gas and oil held within the formations very difficult.” Fracking has made many of these previously known formations commercially viable, and facilitated the discovery of new reserves as companies seek gas and oil in new locations.²

For 2013, the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) estimated that 35.1 percent of America’s energy use by source came from petroleum, 26.6 percent from natural gas, and 18.1 percent from coal. Nuclear power accounted for 8.3 percent, and renewable energy—such as wind, solar

geothermal, or hydropower—supplied 9.3 percent. The EIA states that the numbers “may not add to 100 percent due to independent rounding.”³



⁴Hydraulic Fracturing: Making the Headlines in 2011. OfPeace and Politics, 8 Mar. 2011. Web. 8 Dec. 2012. <<http://ofpeaceandpolitics.wordpress.com/2011/03/08/hydraulic-fracturing-making-the-headlines-in-2011/>>.

Fracking proponents cite economic benefits, to include not only making the United States more energy independent but also to allow for the exportation of natural gas. Opponents are primarily concerned about the impact of fracking to human health and the natural environment. World-wide reactions to its use are mixed; some countries allow fracking while others ban it.

The use of hydraulic fracturing has broad implications for our country: the economy, the environment, and human health. For citizens to have an impact on public policy, understanding how fracking works, its pros and its cons are critical.

Protecting the Public Health and Public Lands

While federal regulation of hydraulic fracturing has been stalled in Congress, the U.S. Department of Interior and the Bureau of Land Management have proposed rules to regulate it on public lands that are leased for energy production. According to its website, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Departments of Energy and the Interior have been working together since 2012 to provide technical guidance and implementation support to states and tribes to help ensure that natural gas extraction does not come at the expense of public health and the environment. The EPA's focus and obligations under the law are to provide oversight, guidance and, where appropriate, rulemaking that achieve the best possible protections for the air, water and land. The Agency is investing in improving our scientific understanding of the potential impact of hydraulic fracturing on air, water quality, aquatic ecosystems, and health, providing regulatory clarity with respect to existing laws, and using existing authorities where appropriate to enhance health and environmental safeguards. The EPA expects to release a draft report on fracking's potential impact on drinking water resources in December.

In May the EPA furthered its response to a 2011 petition from Earthjustice and 114 others in announcing that it is considering rules under the Toxic Substances Control Act requiring oilfield service companies to submit details on the health safety of their fracking chemicals. With continuing pressure from industry, the Agency said it instead might decide to use incentives or voluntary steps.⁵ Meanwhile, some states have enacted mandatory disclosure laws for the chemicals used in fracking.

According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, federal and state governments need to adopt strong enforceable laws and standards that protect the environment, public health, and communities.⁶ Protections based on robust scientific research on health and environment impacts are needed to:

- Reduce water pollution
- Reduce air pollution
- Protect communities and residential areas, i.e., keep fracking away from homes and schools
- Protect wilderness on federal public lands
- Dispose of hazardous waste properly and
- Require public disclosure of chemicals used

Many localities are taking initiatives to contain, control, or ban fracking. One successful example has occurred in Dryden, New York.⁷ The New York State Court of Appeals ruled in favor of Dryden and another town, Middlefield,

in their clarification of zoning laws, road use regulations, noise limits, and environmental protections in order to ban hydraulic fracturing. This court ruling is expected to “reverberate nationally.” Other localities in California, Colorado, Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina are passing resolutions and proposals to ban or limit fracking and the disposal of fracking waste. The New York Court ruling has significance beyond the state of New York in that it encourages other towns across the country to pursue limitations on fracking.

The Community Environmental Defense Council claims to have helped 200 New York municipalities either to ban or put a moratorium on fracking in accordance with the State's Constitution. Its founder addressed a Norman, OK, public meeting about fracking in August. He said that Oklahoma law allows cities to regulate for the health, welfare, and safety of its citizens. He gave an example of some cities around the country having used home rule to require setbacks of 3,000-5,000 feet for drilling operations.⁸

Several oil and gas companies want drilling permits to explore natural gas opportunities in Garrett County, MD, where Deep Creek Lake is located. In 2011 Governor Martin O'Malley issued an executive order establishing the Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Initiative to study drilling impacts before any natural gas wells could be built in Maryland. The first report covered the desirability of legislation to establish revenue sources, such as a state-level severance tax and standards of liability for damages caused by gas exploration and production. In 2014 the University of MD contributed a report on potential public health impacts which warns that drilling could pose a threat to air quality, increasing the risk of “adverse birth outcomes including congenital heart defects, sinus problems, eye burning, severe headaches, persistent cough and skin rashes.” The report recommends strong police and state agency monitoring of fracking operations if they are allowed Maryland. Later this year, Maryland's last report will cover possible contamination of groundwater, handling and disposal of wastewater, environmental impacts, impact to forest and important habitats, greenhouse gas emissions and economic impacts.⁹

Where Is Fracking Taking Place?

“Fracking is currently taking place in approximately 30 states, without sufficient safeguards and typically under out-dated regulations and inadequate enforcement. The oil and gas industry is seeking to expand fracking nationwide to extract gas from previously inaccessible sites...Over the

last decade, the industry has drilled tens of thousands of new wells in the Rocky Mountain region, the South, and the eastern United States. In the East, the latest hotbed of activity, the focus has been on a massive 600 miles-long rock formation called the Marcellus Shale, which stretches from West Virginia, through Ohio and Pennsylvania, and into New York State.”¹⁰

“In 2000, there were about 276,000 natural gas wells in the United States. But by 2010, that number had almost doubled to 510,000, according to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). And every year, about 13,000 new wells are drilled. The areas where fracking is most profitable include the Great Plains from Canada south into Texas, the Great Lakes region and an area known as the Marcellus Shale... according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA).”¹¹

The shale boom is not limited to the United States. Fracking is going global. The following chart was cited in an article in the Washington Post (The Face of Fracking in Britain by Edward Robinson, April 27, 2014). The data as of May 2013 came from Bloomberg company reports and the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Table 1 – World Leaders in Shale Gas and Oil Finds

Top Shale Oil Finds (Billions of barrels)	Top Shale Gas Finds (Trillions of cubic feet)
1. Russia, 75	1. China, 1,115
2. United States, 58	2. Argentina, 802
3. China, 32	3. Algeria, 707
4. Argentina, 27	4. United States, 665
5. Libya, 26	5. Canada 573

In that same Post article, John Browne, a member of the House of Lords and a director in the British government’s Cabinet Office and a former chief executive of British Petroleum (BP) says “fracking would secure a new domestic energy source, create thousands of jobs, generate billions of pounds in tax revenue and be a cheaper alternative than constructing nuclear plants....Shale gas could be very, very important for this county; it could be transformative.”¹²

Fracking in the George Washington National Forest

At nearly two million acres, The George Washington National Forest (GW) is the largest national forest in the East. “The GW plays an important role in providing water

for much of our region as it is located entirely within the watershed of the James and Potomac Rivers, which supply drinking water to Richmond, VA, and Washington, D.C., and ultimately flow into the Chesapeake Bay. It is a direct source of drinking water for over 262,000 people in local communities in and around Virginia’s historic Shenandoah Valley. Further downstream more than 4.5 million people in northern Virginia, the Washington, D.C. metro area, and Richmond rely on the forest to protect many headwaters of a safe, high-quality drinking water supply.”¹³ Fairfax Water treats our drinking water with ozone and granulated carbon to remove 120 regulated and nonregulated contaminants. Since the mix of hundreds of fracking chemicals, including known carcinogens, is proprietary, we can expect that some would enter our water supply if fracking were allowed in the George Washington National Forest.

“...The U.S. Forest Service...is considering allowing George Washington to become the first national forest to permit high-volume hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. The million-acre forest sits on the eastern edge of the Marcellus shale formation, whose vast deposits of natural gas have touched off a drilling bonanza in Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Fracking currently is permitted on only two Forest Service preserves, both in the West: Dakota Prairie National Grasslands in North Dakota and Pawnee National Grassland in Colorado.”¹⁴ Sarah Francisco, an attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC), (as cited in the January 22, 2014, *Los Angeles Times*) cautions that before fracking in the GW Forest is approved, several questions need to be considered:

- Would the gas companies compete with municipalities for the forest’s water?
- How would the highly contaminated water be disposed of, since local treatment plants could not handle it?
- Would methane from wells migrate into the water?
- Would accidental spills of chemicals or wastewater taint the watershed?¹⁵

“The future cleanliness of the Washington region’s drinking water has unexpectedly become a central concern in the national debate over the controversial natural-gas drill method known as ‘fracking.’ The gas industry is pushing to allow fracking in the George Washington National Forest despite fears that it could threaten the cleanliness of the Potomac River.”¹⁶

SELC supports cleaner alternative energy sources such as natural gas that will help move our region away from coal but strongly objects to the destructive ways natural gas is now being extracted—and to the lack of environmental oversight. Its highest priority in Virginia is to keep fracking

out of the George Washington National Forest, more than half of which overlies the Marcellus Shale formation. SELC is working intensely to convince the U.S. Forest Service to stick with its proposal to ban horizontal drilling on any land leased for oil or gas production in the national forest, which would provide a significant check on high-volume fracking. It also insists that drinking water supply watersheds be made off-limits to all forms of drilling.¹⁷

Arguments for and Against Hydraulic Fracturing

Pro:

1. Natural gas produced by fracking has an environmental advantage over coal mining. Shale gas emits half the carbon dioxide per unit of energy as does coal. Coal burning emits metals such as mercury into the atmosphere that settle back into our land and waters. The oil and gas industry argues that natural gas is a cleaner fuel than coal so fracking would result in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Short-run economic interests support fracking, saying that natural gas is leading to lower energy prices, greater energy independence, and more jobs with higher salaries.
3. States where fracking takes place have seen an increase in tax revenue.
4. Fracking increases the energy security of the U.S. and improves the abilities to generate electricity, heat homes and power vehicles for generations to come.
5. The U.S. Geological Survey is studying the source and composition of current and future water produced as a result of fracking.¹⁸

Con:

1. Chemical contamination of ground water and local drinking water sources can occur by way of leaks, spills, erosion, and runoff from drilling operations. Companies have been granted special exemptions from existing federal environmental laws (i.e., Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act) and are not required to disclose some of the chemicals they use.
2. Air pollution results from emissions from drilling rigs, storage tanks, compressor stations, and truck traffic, contributing to harmful ozone levels and human health problems.
- 3 Wells, roads, and pipelines can displace wildlife and harm habitats.

4. Methane emissions from production sites and pipelines contribute to climate change.

5. Concerns about earthquakes possibly resulting from the injecting of wastewater from drilling, creating fluid pressure below the surface are being substantiated by the US Geological Survey.¹⁹

Outlook

“The International Energy Agency suggests that for oil and gas producers to make peace with adversaries and move forward, they should take common-sense steps: improve transparency about the chemicals they use; engage communities better; monitor wells more effectively; toughen rules on well design and surface spills; manage water supplies carefully; and reduce methane emissions. The IEA reckons that implementing such measures would add just 7 percent to total well costs, and would go a long way toward pacifying critics.” The industry is still in its “adolescence.”²⁰

“The accurate and unbiased scientific data provided by ‘federal agencies’ are crucial to the Federal and State resource managers to meet the challenge of balancing America’s needs for unconventional resources and a clean and healthy environment.”²¹ Currently, government studies are being developed to identify the impact of fracking in the environment more definitively. As yet, we have no national standards in place; instead the affected states have differing requirements for fracking operations. Nationally, environmental laws are being administered through the Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Interior, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service.

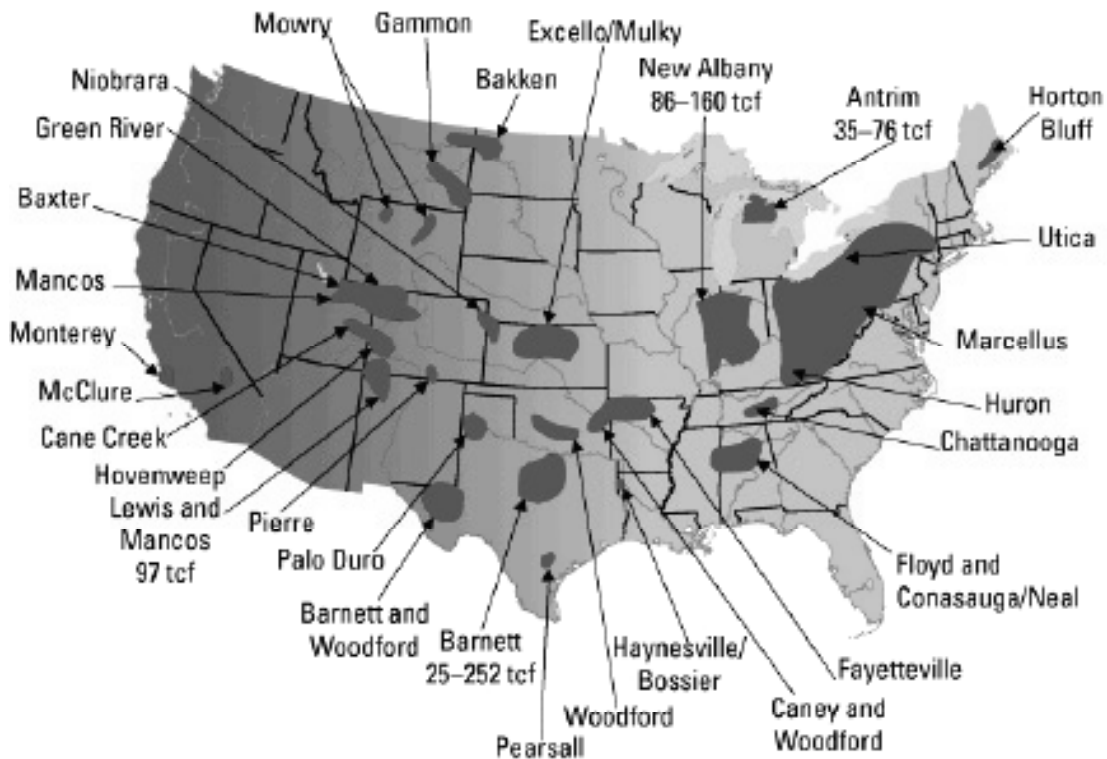
Hydraulic fracturing presents opportunities and challenges to our area and to our country. Legislative oversight both at federal and state levels must be developed. We must be cognizant of the potential impacts on public health and the environment. But the economics of the process also can positively influence our domestic economy and our international standing. Further understanding of the pros and cons of fracking is critical and localities must weigh its costs and benefits. The development of cleaner, sustainable energy sources is also critical.

Endnotes

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Shale Gas Formations in the United States



Shale Gas Formations In The United States. eHelpfulTips, n.d. Web. 8 Dec. 2012.
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Discussion Questions for the Fracking Study

1. What is hydraulic fracturing or fracking?
2. Discuss the pros and cons of the process.
3. Describe the benefits and/or negatives of fracking in the George Washington National Forest. Should the ban on fracking in national forests be continued?
4. What legislation (state/federal) would you like to see implemented to make fracking a viable method?
5. Discuss the future outlook for hydraulic fracturing and the development/implementation of other energy sources.

LWVNCA August Retreat Proves “Useful and Enjoyable”

The League of Women Voters National Capital Area held a retreat for local leagues in August. Virginia Long, president, welcomed the group who represented 10 local leagues and 3 state Leagues. Over 30 individuals attended this action-packed day.

Dianna Haskell, Shur Fellow from LWVUS, provided the Membership and Leadership Development Program being instituted in Leagues across the nation. In small groups the participants met to develop new and innovative ideas for membership. The topics included Media Outreach, Education and Community Outreach, Community Partnerships and Coalitions, and Outreach to Members. These very creative ideas will be shared and developed at future events.

After lunch, Nancy Soreng and Judy Morenoff from LWVMC reviewed Program Planning and how to use LWV positions to advocate at the local, state and national level. Olga Hernandez, secretary LWVNCA, gave an overview of What LWVNCA Can Do and Is Doing, and participants responded with ideas to be considered for future meetings.

Some of the remarks by those who attended were “worthwhile,” “useful and enjoyable,” “met to trade ideas,” “productive, informative and well run.” Stay tuned for future LWVNCA programs.

Mt Vernon Unit Begins Voter Outreach Program Along the Route 1 Corridor

United Community Ministries, based in Alexandria, has been receptive to the idea that LWVFA provide literature for its offices and suggestions for ways to encourage its clients to vote and participate in civic life. Through its four offices near Route 1, UCM reaches minority groups with food services, “help with rent and medicine, job training and placement, early learning and after-school care for children. Its Progreso Center for Literacy and Citizenship empowers immigrants through education, citizenship services, and leadership development,” as its website says.

Jo Ann Hersh, the Voter Services Chair for the Mount Vernon Evening unit, has volunteered with UCM for many years. It was natural for her to offer our voter education expertise in this critical first year of the required photo ID. The UCM offices and two housing agencies are displaying Fairfax County and League literature on this year’s election. Jane Hilder, MVE’s Membership Chair, and Sidney Johnson are meeting with UCM social service counselors to discuss ways to interest their citizen clients in exercising their rights to vote, registering, and obtaining their photo IDs. Jo Ann and Dorothy Brandt, an MVE member and long-time county registrar, are also hosting a voter registration table at the UCM special monthly free vegetable event on September 27.

It may take some time for a partnership to develop between LWVFA and UCM. Visitors to the offices may seem unresponsive to our message. Social service counselors may be so focused on the immediate needs of their clients that they, too, think that voting is secondary at this time in their lives. Now we are making a promising start in this corridor.

**October is
Domestic Violence
Awareness Month**

LWVFA Members Interviewed on Fairfax Public Access Television

Olga Hernandez, LWVFA member who is a former president of LWV-VA, and representatives from AAUW, AARP, CAPAVA (Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans of Virginia) and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. were interviewed by Bettina Lawton on *Inside Scoop*. The show was telecast live on August 18 on Fairfax Public Access and can be viewed on YouTube. The link is <http://youtu.be/V4iPcH-ZGFw>. This was a wonderful opportunity for the League and its Meet and Greet partners to showcase their organizations. Olga did an outstanding job informing the viewers about League activities--especially the Voters' Guide, voter registration, voter ID law, Senate debates, and the Meet and Greet forums. Jim Southworth, executive producer, will be videotaping all of the Meet and Greets and uploading the event to YouTube. The links will be available on the League's website: www.lwv-fairfax.org.

Helen Kelly and Peggy Knight were interviewed by Cathleen Myers on the show *On the Go with AAUW*. The show will air on Fairfax Public Access, Channel 10, on Monday, September 8, 12:30 a.m., Thursday, September 11, 9:30 p.m., and Sunday, September 14, 4 p.m. Helen and Peggy did a great job providing information about the League's roots in the Women Suffrage Movement and our current activities, especially educating the public. They were able to share information about voter registration, voter ID laws, and the Meet and Greet events.

Fairfax County Voter Statistics

Voter Database:

Registered voters (end of 2013)	705,722
Registrations processed	125,982
Online registrations	4,542
New citizen ceremony registration	3,820
High school registrations	3,800

2013 General Election

Active registered voters	665,311
Total voter participation (46.80%)	311,429
Absentee voters (9.44%)	29,406
Election Day calls	3,788
Provisional ballots cast	489
Provisional ballots accepted	217

Source: Fairfax County Office of Elections

A Book Recommendation . . .

ON DEMOCRACY'S DOORSTEP: The Inside Story of How the Supreme Court Brought "One Person, One Vote" to the United States

Review by Bernice Colvard, LWVFA Historian



[Ed. Note: This book written by J. Douglas Smith, published 2014 by Hill and Wang, a division of Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, New York. The book has been recommended by several Leaguers.]

The Warren Court is best remembered for its milestone rulings in favor of desegregation and the rights of the accused. But Chief Justice Earl Warren maintained that its most important decisions were against malapportionment. The result was the defining of the principle of 'one person, one vote,' the bedrock of a true democracy.

After World War II, the U.S. population began a decided shift from rural to metropolitan areas, seeking broader opportunities in housing, education, employment, etc. This left rural areas and small towns to enjoy disproportionate political power while the cities and suburbs struggled to develop an effective voice in state government. The politics of this issue were enmeshed with basic contentions for civil and voting rights as well as related contests between business and labor. Close to home, the author illustrates the rural/urban divide by pointing out that "when the Virginia legislature voted in 1956 to oppose desegregation by closing public schools, the twenty-one senators who voted in favor represented fewer residents than did the seventeen senators who opposed it."

The League of Women Voters was there throughout, educating its members and others on the issues and advocating for change. By promoting one person, one vote through reapportionment, the League and other activists incurred the wrath of Chambers of Commerce and segregationists, especially in the South. Eventually, skillful use of the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to promote radical judicial intervention won the day.

LWVUS Board Reception

Hosted by League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area
Friday, October 24 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Cosmos Club

2121 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008

Meet President Elisabeth MacNamara and her 2014-2016 LWVUS Board and LWVUS Executive Director Nancy Tate and some major staff. See your Leaguer friends from the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

Reception Cost: \$40 per Leaguer. **RSVP:** Deadline: October 17. Email RSVP with your name(s), address, email, phone, local League to andreagruhl@aol.com using header "**LWVUS Board Reception**" then ground mail completed form below with check covering persons RSVP'ing. Make checks payable to: League of Women Voters of the National Capital Area, or LWNCA.

-----Cut Here-----

**RSVP Information for LWVUS Board Reception. Complete form and mail with check to:
Andrea Gruhl, 5990 Jacob's Ladder, Columbia, MD 21045.**

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

CHECK AMOUNT \$ _____ **LEAGUE:** _____ **DATE:** _____

Why Should You Attend LWVUS Board Reception?

By Andrea Morris Gruhl, Vice President, LWNCA

As busy as area Leaguers are this election season, why is it important to attend the LWVUS Board Reception on October 24? Tradition going back several decades finds LWNCA honoring with a reception the new LWVUS Board elected at the biennial LWVUS Convention upon that board's coming to D.C. for its first, quarterly LWVUS Board meeting. Our reception is always on Friday evening at the end of their first of four days of meetings. At the 2014 reception we will have drinks and delicious *hors d'oeuvres* and socialize with regional Leaguers and the LWVUS Board and headquarters staff. President Elisabeth MacNamara will give a short speech about national League issues then introduce the members of the 2014-2016 LWVUS Board, who will describe their respective roles. LWVUS Executive

Director Nancy Tate will speak about administrative issues and introduce several of her major staff.

You are encouraged to **RSVP** (See flyer) to attend the 2014 LWVUS Board Reception on Friday, October 24 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The cost is \$40. The elegant Cosmos Club at 2121 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20008, is the reception site. The very prestigious club (i.e., Nobel Prize winners are among the meritocracy that is the club's distinguished membership) is located two blocks west of Dupont Circle. Take Metro Red Line to Dupont Circle Station; take Q Street (North) Exit. Walk along Q Street to Mass. Ave. passing Phillips Art Gallery on right. You can drive to the club and find street parking free or park at nearby lots or parking buildings. The club's website lists available parking.



WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT

Prepared by

The League of Women Voters® of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA) Education Fund
 –a 501(c)(3) organization–

General Election – Tuesday, November 4, 2014

Polls open 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

For information on the general election, voter registration, or district and precinct contact:

Fairfax County General Register	(703) 222-0776	www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections
City of Fairfax General Registrar	(703) 385-7890	www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar
Virginia Department of Elections	(800) 552-8745	www.elections.virginia.gov

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| (D) = Democrat | (G) = Green | (I) = Independent |
| (IG) = Independent Green | (L) = Libertarian | (R) = Republican |
| | (*) = Incumbent | |

The candidates appear in the order they will appear on the ballot as determined at the SBE by lot drawing.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

For the United States Senate

Ed W. Gillespie (R)
<http://www.edforsenate.com>

Mark R. Warner* (D)
<http://www.markwarnerva.com>

Robert C. Sarvis (L)
<http://www.robertsarvis.com>

For the United States House of Representatives

8th District
Micah K. Edmond (R)
<http://www.micahedmond.com>

10th District
Barbara J. Comstock (R)
<http://www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com>

11th District
Suzanne K. Scholle (R)
<http://www.suzannescholleforscongress.com>

Donald S. Beyer, Jr. (D)
<http://www.friendsofdonbeyer.com>

John W. Foust (D)
<http://www.foustforvirginia.com>

Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly* (D)
<http://www.gerryconnolly.com>

Jeffrey S. Carson (L)
<http://www.jeffreycarson.com>

William B. Redpath (L)
<http://www.billredpath.com>

Joe F. Galdo (G)
<http://www.joegaldo.com>

Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III (IG)
<http://www.votejoinrun.us>

Dianne L. Blais (IG)
<http://www.votejoinrun.us/blais.html>

Marc M. Harrold (L)
<http://www.marcmharrold4congress.com>

Gwendolyn J. Beck (I)
<http://www.gwendolynbeck.com>

Brad A. Eickhoff (I)
<http://www.eickhoff4congress.com>

BALLOT QUESTIONS ON REVERSE SIDE

Fall 2014 Voters' Guide: The League sent questionnaires to the candidates for U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. All candidates queried are those whose names were certified for the General and Special Election ballot. Responses can be read in the Fall 2014 Voters' Guide to be published in *The Fairfax County Times* newspaper the week of October 24, 2014, and online on the LWVFA website, www.LWV-Fairfax.org, at LWVUS www.vote411.org, or our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/fairfax.

The Voter Registration deadline for the November 2014 election is Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.
*****NEW THIS YEAR: YOU MUST SHOW AN ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID AT THE PRECINCT*****

Questions on the Ballot:**PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT:****Property tax exemption for certain veterans and surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action.**

Ballot Question: Shall Section 6-A of Article X (Taxation and Finance) of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried? YES/NO

TRANSPORTATION BONDS:

Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation facilities, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, improvements related to transit, improvements for pedestrians and bicycles, and ancillary related improvements and facilities? YES/NO

CITY OF FAIRFAX - ADVISORY REFERENDUM

Do you support changing the length of the terms of office for City Council members, the Mayor, and the members of the School Board from the current two (2) years to four (4) years? YES/NO

*****NEW THIS YEAR: YOU MUST SHOW AN ACCEPTABLE PHOTO ID AT THE PRECINCT*****

You must be registered at your current address,
with your current surname
to register or update your registration online,
providing your DMV ID number
www.vote.virginia.gov

OR

Print application (also available from the library)
and mail it in before 5:00 p.m., October 14, 2014

WALK IN TO GET A FREE PHOTO ID
AT

FAIRFAX COUNTY OFFICE OF ELECTIONS
12000 Government Center Parkway
Suite 323, Fairfax, Virginia 22035
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections>
703-222-0776

OR

CITY OF FAIRFAX GENERAL REGISTRAR
10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax, VA 22030
<http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar>
703-385-7890

OR ANY OTHER REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
CALL TO CONFIRM OPENING DAYS AND TIMES

1. Complete and sign an application form.
2. Wait while the Registrar or staff confirms your information in the voter registration system.
3. Have your photo taken at the office.
4. Sign your name on the signature device.
5. Receive your photo ID in the mail.

ACCEPTABLE PHOTO IDs

- * U.S. passport/passport card *Federal, Virginia, or local
 - * Virginia driver's license/ID government ID w/photo
 - * Employee ID w/photo (military IDs OK)
 - * Virginia higher education institution student ID w/photo
 - * Virginia public (not private) high school ID w/photo
- Voter photo ID card, free from Virginia Dept of Elections

*ALL IDs MUST BE VALID, GENUINE,
INCLUDE A PHOTO OF THE VOTER,
AND, IF BEARING A DATE,
NOT BE EXPIRED FOR MORE THAN 12 MONTHS

NEED A PHOTO ID??

You must be a registered voter in Virginia.
You may register online, then apply for a photo ID.
You may register in person and apply for a photo ID at the
same time. Either way, the photo ID will be mailed after the
registration is confirmed.

Voters without a photo ID can cast a **provisional** ballot,
then get a temporary photo ID at the Elections Office or
bring, mail, e-mail or fax a copy of an acceptable photo ID by
noon Friday, November 7, to have their ballots counted.

**YOU MAY GET A TEMPORARY PHOTO ID
IF YOU APPLY TOO LATE
TO RECEIVE YOUR ID IN THE MAIL**

Disclaimer: The contact information provided in "What's on the Ballot?" was furnished by the campaigns to the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA), obtained from the Fairfax County Office of Elections, or official websites. The LWVFA is not responsible for any changes or inaccuracies in the listings; the information was current as of August 26, 2014. This is not an official publication for any campaign or candidate, but information only. The LWVFA can be reached at 703-658-9150, on the web at www.LWV-Fairfax.org, on our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/lwvfairfax, or at LWVUS www.vote411.org.

This Month's Unit Meeting Locations

Topic: Fracking Pros and Cons: Is There a Way to Satisfy Both Sides?

Members and visitors are encouraged to attend any meeting convenient for them, including the "At Large Meeting" and briefing on Saturdays when a briefing is listed. As of September 1, 2014, the locations were correct; please use phone numbers to verify sites and advise of your intent to attend. Some meetings at restaurants may need reservations.

Saturday, October 4

10 a.m. At-Large Unit and Briefing

Packard Center
4026 Hummer Road
Annandale 22003
Contact: Judy, 703-725-9401

Monday, October 6

1:30 p.m. Greenspring (GSP)

Hunters Crossing Classroom
Spring Village Drive
Springfield 22150
Contact: Kay, 703-644-2670

Tuesday, October 7

10 a.m. Centreville-Chantilly (CCD)

Sully District Gov. Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd.
Chantilly 20151
Contact: Leslie, 571-213-6384

Wednesday, October 8

9:30 a.m. Mt. Vernon Day (MVD)

Mt. Vernon Dist. Government Center
2511 Parkers Lane
Alexandria 22306
Contact: Gail, 703-360-6561

9:30 a.m. McLean Day (McL)

Star Nut Café
1445 Laughlin Ave.
McLean 22101
Contact: Sharone 703-734-1048
or Adarsh 703-356-8368

10 a.m. Fairfax Station (FXS)

7902 Bracksford Court
Fairfax Station 22039
Contact: Lois 703-690-0908

7:30 p.m. Reston Evening (RE)

Reston Art Gallery at Heron House
Lake Anne Village Center
Reston 20190
Contact: Lucy, 703-757-5893

Thursday, October 9

9 a.m. Reston Day (RD)

12100 Stirrup Lane
Reston, 20191
Contact: Mia 703-716-4540

9:30 a.m. Springfield (SPF)

Packard Center.
(in Annandale Community Park)
4026 Hummer Road
Annandale 22003
Contact: Nancy 703-256-6570
or Peg 703-256-9420

1 p.m. Fairfax/Vienna (FX-V)

Oakton Regional Library
10304 Lynhaven Pl.
Oakton 22124
Contact: Bobby, 703-938-1486 or
Liz, 703-281-3380

7:45 p.m. Mt. Vernon Evening (MVE)

Paul Spring Retirement Community
Mt. Vernon Room
7116 Fort Hunt Road
Alexandria 22307
Contact: Jane, 703-960-6820

November Meetings:

Human Trafficking



The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area (LWVFA)
 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403
 703-658-9150. Web address: www.lwv-fairfax.org

Non-Profit Org.
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October, 2014
Julie Jones, Co-President
Helen Kelly, Co-President
Ron Page, Editor
Liz Brooke, Coordinator

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the public to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state, regional and national levels, the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any citizen of voting age, male or female, may become a member.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.

LWVFA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Dues year is July 1 through June 30. Current dues year ends June 30, 2015.)

Membership Category: Individual \$65 ____; Household (2 persons-1 VOTER) \$90 __; Donation \$ ____
 Student \$32.50 ____; (Coll. Attending _____)

Membership is: New ____; Renewal ____; Reinstate ____; Subsidy Requested ____

We value membership. A subsidy fund is available, check block above and include whatever you can afford.

Dues are not tax deductible. Tax-deductible donations must be written on a separate check payable to LWVFA Ed. Fund.

Please Print Clearly!

Name _____ **Unit** _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip + 4** _____

Phone (H) _____ **(M)** _____ **E-Mail** _____

Thank you for checking off your interests:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County Govt | <input type="checkbox"/> Voting Procedures | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Human Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence |

Mail to: LWVFA, 4026-B Hummer Road, Annandale, VA 22003-2403