

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Marcellus Well Site Spacing

Re: Marcellus Well Site Spacing

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URL:

Yeah, and that's probably Utica, i.e. even deeper than Marcellus, right?

I think the point is, Troutberts spacing number may very well be accurate, and they may very well be Marcellus, but they are probably vertical wells, not horizontal wells.

From what I've seen over 40 or 50 years, if drilling is just in your area, it's better if it is horizontal drilling. If it's in your backyard, vertical is better.

Horizontal pads are larger. They sink more wells from one so it might be a decade before they cap the well and move on. They use more water. Each pad has more traffic, so the roads are bigger/wider. Pressures are greater, so there's more danger of leaks and geysers, and the impact is greater if one does happen.

But, the spacing is considerably wider. And that offsets everything. I'd much rather have the fewer well sites associated with horizontal drilling than the "total coverage" associated with vertical wells.