

Natural Gas from Pennsylvania: Affordable Energy, Clean Air, Economic Growth and Thousands of Vital Products

America's shale energy revolution has made the United States the largest oil and natural gas producer in the world, and Pennsylvania has emerged a leader in this growth. Pennsylvania increased its natural gas production by 80 percent between 2013-2017, and now supplies 20 percent of the nation's demand for natural gas.

The benefits that come along with this staggering growth in production are equally impressive. Learn more below:

The average Pennsylvania family is saving \$1,200 annually in energy costs, thanks to the production of natural gas right here at home.

This chart tells part of the story, comparing the "Purchased Gas Cost" for eight major natural gas distribution companies between 2008-2015. The average savings to customers among those suppliers is \$102/month.

Cost Savings to Families, 2008-2015					
Utility	PGC Rate/MCF		Percentage Change	Customer Savings	
	2008	2015	2008-2015	Monthly	
PECO	\$11.10	\$3.53	-68%	\$113.55	
NFG	\$10.34	\$3.10	-70%	\$108.60	
PGW	\$10.56	\$4.17	-61%	\$96.16	
Columbia	\$10.25	\$4.68	-54%	\$83.55	
Equitable	\$11.81	\$4.22	-64%	\$113.85	
UGI	\$11.79	\$4.85	-59%	\$104.10	
UGI Penn	\$10.66	\$4.22	-60%	\$96.60	
Peoples	\$9.53	\$2.59	-73%	\$104.10	

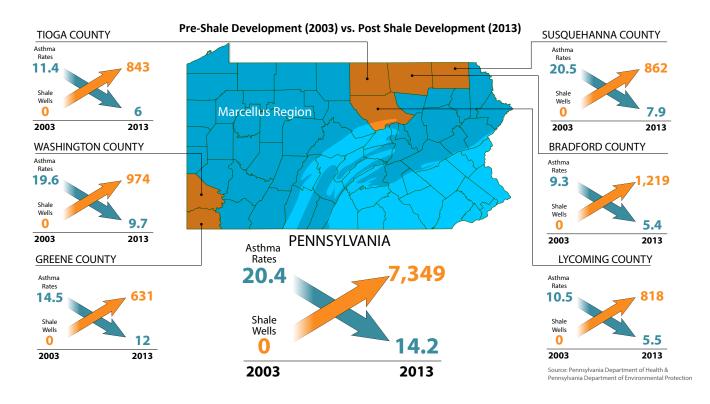
Pennsylvania's air is the cleanest it has been in decades due to the greater use of natural gas for electricity production.

This chart, showing statewide air monitoring results from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection between 2008-2014, shows the steep drop in important air pollutants known as "National Ambient Air Quality Standards" that have been monitored by the states and the U.S. EPA since 1970.

Air Quality Improvements in Pennsylvania, 2008-2014				
NAAQS Pollutant	Percentage Decrease			
Carbon Monoxide	40			
Nitrogen Oxides	28			
Particulate Matter -10	54			
Particulate Matter -2.5	63			
Sulfur Dioxide	66			
Volatile Organic Compounds	18			

This all means that Pennsylvanians are breathing cleaner air. That translates into reduced hospital admissions for asthma conditions, as reported be the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Environmental Protection. The map below tells the story of hospital admission rates between 2003-2013, both in counties with significant shale gas production, and statewide.

Pennsylvania Asthma Hospitalization Rates Decline as Shale Revolution Takes Off



Natural gas development and processing means jobs, economic growth and new opportunities.



It is estimated that more than 339,000 Pennsylvania jobs are connected to the state's energy development industry, and those workers typically make \$20,000/year more than the state's average wage earner.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that employment in counties with Marcellus Shale development increased by an average of 8.7 percent between 2008-2014, a period hard-hit by a lingering recession.

In addition to the billions of dollars in state and local taxes paid by natural gas developers and service companies, more than \$1.2 billion has been allocated in Impact Fees that reach every county in the state, even those without drilling activity.

Royal Dutch Shell's \$6 billion ethane cracker facility in Beaver County is the largest single investment in the Commonwealth since World War II. It will provide 6,000 jobs during construction and more than 600 perminent jobs once in operation. It will also spark a regional manufacturing renaissance by attracting companies that make thousands of consumer, industrial, commercial and medical products that rely on polyethylene as a feedstock.

The processing of ethane from Pennsylvania shale gas produces more than 6,000 products we rely on every day.

Everyone knows oil is refined into gasoline and natural gas is essential to heat our homes and cook our food, but the number of products derived from processing both oil and natural gas byproducts continues to grow. Just look at a sampling of the consumer goods found in our homes.



Photo courtesy of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program