

groundswell **RISING**

protecting our children's air & water

what you'll find inside!

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Bullfrog Community Screening & Discussion Guide

Roll out the red carpet! Use your film screening of **GROUNDSWELL RISING** as a tool to explore the impact of natural gas drilling on the environmental and personal health of communities, industry influence on local and state governments, and the ways that individual citizens can influence energy policy. This guide offers some background information plus helpful tips & discussion questions for an informative, and rewarding screening. **Good Luck!**

For additional resources, visit groundswellrising.bullfrogcommunities.com/gsr_resources

About **GROUNDSWELL RISING**

GROUNDSWELL RISING gives voice to ordinary folks engaged in a David and Goliath struggle against Big Oil and Gas. We meet parents, scientists, doctors, farmers and individuals across the political spectrum decrying the energy extraction process known as fracking that puts profits over people. This provocative documentary tracks a grassroots movement exposing dangers to clean air, water, and civil rights. Transcending the genre of environmental film, GROUNDSWELL's passionate stories inspire and empower.



About the Directors



These producers and brothers have been creating award-winning television for over 20 years. Some of their productions include: for PBS, *The Science of Healing*, with Dr. Esther Sternberg about the mind/body connection to healing; *Seasoned with Spirit*, Emmy-winning series about Native American culture and cuisine; and *Theater on the Edge*, an Emmy-winning segment for WNET's *City Arts*. Renard Cohen is also a musician and composer.

ready to watch!

Here are some ideas and best practices to help make your community screening of **GROUNDSWELL RISING** a success!

1. Publicize Your Event! This is the most important step because it not only tells the world what you're up to, but it lets the Bullfrog Community team know what your plans are so we can help you publicize your event. Visit <http://groundswellrising.bullfrogcommunities.com/> to register and get the word out on your GROUNDSWELL RISING screening.

2. Visualize Your Goal! What do you hope to achieve with your screening of GROUNDSWELL RISING? Your goal could be to generate a lively post-film discussion about fracking and natural gas drilling, the legal rights of homeowners, effective ways to mobilize community initiatives to ban fracking, or the health and safety issues related to natural gas drilling. Or, you can simply provide an opportunity for families to watch and learn together.

3. Where To Host? Consider which locations in your area would be ideal for accommodating a community film screening of the size you anticipate: downtown movie theaters, churches and synagogues, town halls, community centers, public libraries, school auditoriums, warehouses at a business and outdoor screenings at parks and playgrounds, and even private homes have been venues for many successful community screenings.

4. Find A Partner! Give some thought to who is already working on this issue in your community. Do you know of groups and organizations who deal with conservancy, water, or habitat issues? Can they help sponsor the event? Spread the word? Speak on a panel discussion after the screening? Some potential partners include: environmental studies, law, sustainability, and engineering departments at universities and colleges, a representative from your state or local Riverkeepers organization, state park rangers or representatives, environmental and conservancy groups, and other organizations concerned about the environment.

5. Invite A Guest Speaker! Guest speakers and panels are a great way to encourage discussion and debate after a community screening. When people are engaged and thinking about the issues they will stay engaged long after the screening has passed. Contact environmental groups, recreational groups such as hiking or boating clubs, or teachers and professors who have expertise or insight into the issues raised by the film, and invite them to attend and participate in a discussion or Q&A session.

6. Engage Your Audience! Included in this handout is a section called Ready to Act! which is meant to be a hand-out at your screening. It will help your audience know what they can do to educate themselves about key issues raised in the film.

7. Spread The Word! Think about the best methods available to you for publicizing the film screening to people in your community. Sending emails, creating event notifications on Facebook or Meetup, using Twitter, and placing screening announcements in local newspapers and newsletters is a good start. Find the GROUNDSWELL RISING screening poster, discussion guide (includes handout), and press photos on groundswellrising.bullfrogcommunities.com/gsr_resources to help publicize your event around town.

8. Tell Us How It Went! Visit <http://groundswellrising.bullfrogcommunities.com/> to tell us about your event: Where it was held? Who attended? What went well, and what was challenging? Your feedback will help others in organizing their own successful events and will energize Bullfrog Communities as a whole.

ready to talk!

Your audience will be excited to discuss the issues raised by GROUNDSWELL RISING. Here are some questions that will get people talking.

- 1.** Did this film increase your awareness to health and safety issues related to the fracking process?
- 2.** What are a few ways that high-volume hydraulic fracturing negatively and positively impact a community?
- 3.** What is your opinion on making high-volume hydraulic fracturing an illegal practice or banning it outright like some governments and communities have done?
- 4.** Do you think fracking is a safe and viable bridge fuel to be used until sustainable alternatives are developed?
- 5.** How is leaking methane more dangerous than carbon dioxide when it comes to global warming?
- 6.** What did you learn about the possibility of air and water contamination from the drilling and fracking process? Are industry claims that fracking and the drilling process have never contaminated a well true?
- 7.** Do you think that there are sufficient protections for home-owners who live near fracking sites?
- 8.** Should fracking be subject to greater control at the local rather than state and federal level?
- 9.** Do you think elected officials and legislation can be swayed by campaign contributions from oil and gas conglomerates? Is there a way to control this?
- 10.** What is an example of how a popular movement brought about change in policy and direction?
- 11.** Is responding to the challenge of climate change a moral issue? Why?
- 12.** How can communities protect themselves from unwelcome industrial development?

online resources

handout

Artists Against Fracking <http://artistsagainstfracking.com>

Berks Gas Truth <http://www.gastruth.org>

Brodhead Watershed Association <http://www.brodheadwatershed.org>

Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy <http://www.catskillcitizens.org>

Clean Water Action <http://www.cleanwateraction.org>

Coalition to Protect New York <http://www.coalitiontoprotectnewyork.org>

Damascus Citizens for Sustainability <http://www.damascuscitizensforsustainability.org>

Delaware Riverkeeper Network <http://www.delawariverkeeper.org>

Erie Rising <http://www.erierising.com>

Fleas <http://fleas.org>

Food & Water Watch <http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org>

Frack Action <http://www.frackaction.com>

Fractivist <http://www.fractivist.blogspot.com>

Gas Free Seneca <http://gasfreeseneca.com>

The Mothers Project <http://www.themothersproject.org>

New Yorkers Against Fracking <http://nyagainstfracking.org>

Pocono Environmental and Wild Life Society <http://pecws.webs.com>

The Sierra Club <http://www.sierraclub.org>

Strike Anywhere <http://www.strikeanywhere.info>

Trout Unlimited, PA <http://www.patrou.org/>

Torbert Marcellus Shale Task Force <http://www.mshaletaskforce.org> + <http://www.pikepa.org/marcellus.html>

Water Defense <http://waterdefense.org>