

The Gates Mills Land Conservancy Policy
On
Oil, Gas and Liquid Gas Extraction in the Village

Over the years, with taxpayer support, the Gates Mills Land Conservancy has accumulated acreage within the Village of Gates Mills that is either owned or under conservation easement to protect and preserve the natural, recreational and scenic value of this very unique green space. These lands are untouched by and protected from the commercial/urban development that is rapidly approaching the village from its west side.

The village is already home to 47 shallow fracked gas wells but a new threat to our community is on the horizon. Because the Village of Gates Mills may sit atop vast quantities of untapped natural resources, and because advancing technologies now allow the extraction of these resources, the village could soon be under enormous pressure to additionally industrialize residential areas within the village. The State of Ohio, by law, no longer allows us to protect ourselves from such an incursion.

The GMLC, therefore, feels that it is important to state that its primary mission remains dedicated to the preservation of open space within the village that is free of urbanization, commercialization, and industrialization.

- The GMLC does not and will not drill for oil and gas or liquid gas on its property.
- The GMLC will not aggregate with neighbors who intend to do so.
- The GMLC has challenged mandatory pooling in the past and will remain opposed to it the future.
- The GMLC policy is to restrict against drilling for oil and gas or liquid gas on its easements and will enforce these restrictions to the best of its ability.
- The GMLC will encourage other entities in the valley, such as the Village of Gates Mills, the Western Reserve Land Conservancy and Cleveland Metroparks North Chagrin Reservation, to adopt and implement similar policies for their properties within the village.

The aim of the GMLC is to protect and preserve properties now and for future generations. Our organization promotes preservation rather than exploitation in hopes that those future generations will be able to live in and enjoy the natural beauty of this historic riverside residential community.