

# GASLAND

JULY 8

ON HBO

PART II

## *Hello and Welcome!*

**T**hank you for signing up to host a house party for the HBO Premiere of GASLAND PART II. Whether you have seen (and memorized) GASLAND PART I or not, GASLAND PART II will provide you with a compelling narrative, shocking facts, clear science on the largest domestic drilling campaign in modern history and an understanding of why drilling can never be made safe. We are providing this screening guide to help guide the discussion after you view the film and help you get active in working with your friends, family and community. The facts and reporting in the film can be upsetting but we don't want you to get down! Working with your community is the best answer to solving this crisis, so it's great that you have some folks over to watch the film together to get started.

GASLAND Part I explored the widespread contamination, pollution and health effects of the largest industrial drilling campaign in history across the US. Famous scenes of people lighting their water on fire reverberated across the world and created awareness of the dangers of drilling and fracking. GASLAND Part II is just as thrilling an investigation, but this time the GASLAND team focused on another level of contamination due to fracking: The contamination of our democracy through the intense influence of oil and gas corporations on our political system. The result is every bit as shocking as the first film, and we want to help you process the issues in the film and provide you with resources to address the problems. For five years now I have been investigating drilling and fracking

across the US and across the world. It has been challenging and difficult to witness all of the destruction in the wake of this dirty fossil fuel development. But it has been equally uplifting and inspiring to work with communities across the world in their fight to save their homes, lands and the character of their communities. We hope that through the film and this guide we can give you some of that inspiration as we head into the next phase of our fight for the health and safety of Americans and of all people suffering the effects of drilling, fracking, fossil fuel development and climate change.

Thank you so much for tuning in.



# THE BASICS ON DRILLING AND FRACKING:

**F**racking uses tens of billions of gallons of water each year. Fracking technology is described as an energy innovation by the industry but the process has been proven to be fatally flawed, contaminating water supplies, polluting air, causing health problems in drilling regions and rapidly industrializing, toxifying and fracturing communities. Although the industry claims that their process is safe, thousands of contamination incidents across the United States confirm that there is no safe drilling.

Accidents and leaks from fracking and drilling have polluted rivers, streams, and drinking water supplies. Regions peppered with drilling rigs have high levels of smog as well as other airborne pollutants, including potential carcinogens. Rural communities

face an onslaught of heavy truck traffic and declining property values. Recent scientific findings have also determined that toxic chemicals present in fracking fluid could cause cancer and other health problems, and that wastewater treatment plants may be unprepared to remove fracking contaminants from the water supply. And while some industry proponents are saying that shale gas from fracking will be a transition fuel that will help ease a warming climate, shale gas fracking has actually been shown to exacerbate climate change by releasing methane, a far more potent greenhouse gas into our atmosphere, and thereby offset any carbon dioxide savings. Ultimately, all of this investment into fossil fuel drilling and infrastructure merely delays investment in and

Over the past decade, there has been a rush for oil and natural gas across America using the controversial drilling method of hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking.”

**The new techniques, technologies, and chemicals used are more intensive and riskier than conventional oil and gas drilling.**

the implementation of renewable energy, the only true answer to our climate change problems.

In Gasland, Josh Fox sounded the alarm about this dangerous trend and the powerful stories from people who have been impacted by its effects helped propel the anti-fracking movement. In Gasland II, Josh further explores the impacts of fracking, not just on our air, water, climate, and communities, but on our democracy itself.

Since the first Gasland film was released, it has become abundantly clear that fracking is inherently unsafe. The risks to our water, health, communities, and climate are so significant and demonstrable that they cannot be adequately regulated. Contributing to this, local and state regulatory agencies are woefully understaffed and lack the resources and authority to protect communities.

The growing grassroots movement that Gasland II documents has been most effective where communities draw clear lines and organize around strong demands. In New York, there is a powerful movement to ban fracking that has galvanized the state. In Colorado, the community of Longmont’s courage to pass a ban ordinance in the face of overwhelming spending by the oil and gas industry and strong opposition by the sitting Governor has spawned a

movement across the state. This speaks volumes to what we can accomplish when we organize around what we believe is right, not what we think is politically expedient.

Gasland II is an important film, but watching it is just a start - just one piece of what we hope people will do. Really, the film is about community. It is about building community and working with our neighbors to protect our communities, our environment, and ultimately, our democracy. Please watch the film, and then use the film to get others involved. Connect with organizations involved in dynamic campaigns across the country to stop fracking and support a real renewable energy future. Alone, we may feel powerless in the face of such massive obstacles, but together, we can build something real, and achieve the changes we all know we need for our future and our children’s future.

**“Although the industry claims that their process is safe, thousands of contamination incidents across the United States confirm that there is no safe drilling.”**



# TIPS FOR HOSTING A GASLAND PART II SCREENING

## BEFORE YOUR EVENT:

### 1 Where are you gonna watch?

Do you have HBO? Yes! (Ok, now invite over as many people as your living room can hold!)  
No: Does a friend of yours have HBO? (Ok now invite over all your friends over to their house)  
Find a co-host or two to help you plan the event. Set the location and time at least two weeks in advance so you can start recruiting members of your community to be there.

### 3 Invite your guests via email, phone or listserv.

Create a Facebook event (& join our Facebook fan page), tweet about it, email your friends, or use Evite to invite guests. Send out the movie trailer. Send guests the movie poster and FAQ's on fracking. Start recruiting at least two weeks before the event, and confirm your RSVPs the night before.

### 5 Check Google News for any updates on stories relating to natural gas or fracking.

The fight against fracking continues to evolve and change every day. Share the current news with your guests so they'll understand how timely your event is and be aware of any pressing action that needs to be taken in your community.

### 2 Set a turnout goal.

The more people learning about the dangers of fracking by seeing this film, the more citizens will be engaged in the fight to stop it. Decide how many people you want to attend your event (10? 20?), and brainstorm who to ask. Make a list of friends, family, coworkers and others in your social network. Are there local community groups you can connect with? Tip: Not everyone who commits to being there will actually make it, so plan to invite more people than your turnout goal.

### 4 Arrange for a guest speaker to join your house party.

You might contact a local activist group working on natural gas drilling, an environmental studies professor, property lawyer, political leader or someone directly impacted by drilling.

**“tweet about it, email your friends, or use Evite to invite guests.”**

### 6 The better the snacks, the better the party.

Purchase ingredients from your local farmer's market and pair your screening with a group potluck made up of dishes with local ingredients. Try to cut down on waste as much as possible.

### 7 Have supporting materials available.

Some people who attend your house party may have heard misinformation and gas industry talking points before coming to the screening. The best way to deal with this is by having supportive, well-researched, and scientific materials readily available. A great one to print is [The Case for a Ban Fracking from Food & Water Watch](#) which you can download [here](#).

## ON THE NIGHT:

**1 At the event, welcome everyone, do a round of introductions and collect emails on the sign-in sheet** (page 11). Go over the agenda for the screening and provide context for attendees (How does fracking affect your community or your neighbors?). Make sure everyone signs in so you can send thank you notes to your attendees and keep them in the loop about the next action. Also, so they can get updates on the latest gas drilling issues, have them sign in on a computer directly on Gasland's website.

**3 Have a computer accessible so your guests can immediately take action after the film.** Go over the Action List (page 8) and have a computer open so guests can do these actions while they're at the event.

### 2 Introduce the film to your guests.

discussion. Check out sample questions on page 9. If there isn't time for a discussion afterward, set another time to meet with the group to keep the conversation going and talk about what actions you can take in your community.

**“The more people learning about the dangers of fracking by seeing this film, the more citizens will be engaged in the fight to stop it.”**

## WHAT NEXT?

**The day after the screening, thank guests for coming and send out the list of actions over email.** Make sure to send the action list out to all of your attendees so they have all the resources they need to get plugged in. You can also send it to any friends who weren't able to make it. Consider setting a regular monthly meeting to continue discussing actions your group can take against fracking in your community. You might even want to consider forming your own action group, to help educate and mobilize folks on fracking issues.

# ALL ABOUT

## The Film

In the original 2010 film *Gasland*, director Josh Fox profiled hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, the process of injecting a pressurized mixture of water, sand and chemicals down a drilled well, causing layers of rock deep in the earth to crack and release natural gas. The film inspired a national dialogue

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**“Josh Fox does it again in a brilliant *GASLAND* sequel”**  
- Alison Rose Levy, *Alternet*

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over the multi-layered environmental dangers potentially at risk. With *GASLAND PART II*, Fox examines the long-term impact of the controversial process, including claims of poisonous water, earthquakes and neurological damage, placing his focus on the people across the globe who say their

lives have been irreparably changed. Traveling from the Gulf of Mexico to the heart of Texas (including Dish, home to free TV service and some of the highest concentration of gas wells in the nation), out to Los Angeles (where fracking for oil is now occurring), and back up to the Delaware River basin (where he has a family home), Fox investigates the effects of this extraction method, as well as the industry’s reaction to negative allegations. The film provides startling claims that fracking may lead to earthquakes in communities that have never experienced ones before. Video footage shows wells venting methane (a powerful greenhouse gas) into the atmosphere in massive amounts. The film also shows how the practice of fracking has gone global, as seen in a visit to rural Australia, where stoic farmers assert that their wells

have been turned into potential flame-spewing gushers. And as gas drills multiply, clean-energy options are being passed over – like hydroelectric, wind, and solar, which some experts say can provide enough energy to power the world five times over. The film argues that the gas industry is using its wealth and power

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**“*Gasland Part II* shows how much higher the stakes have grown in the battle over fracking since Josh Fox made its predecessor.”** - *Grist*

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to influence government policy on fracking, while buying the silence of countless American homeowners forced to move out of their longtime homes because their water has become too polluted to drink.

## The Director

Josh Fox is the founder and producing artistic director of the International WOW Company. Josh has written/directed/produced two feature films and over twenty-five full-length works for the stage, which have premiered in New York, Asia and Europe.

**G**ASLAND, which Josh wrote, directed and shot, is a film about the largest onshore natural gas drilling campaign in US History which threatens to invade huge areas of the northeastern US, including New York city’s watershed. It premiered at the Sundance film festival 2010, where it was awarded the 2010 Special Jury Prize for Documentary. In June of 2010 it premiered on HBO to an audience of 3 million homes, was seen by over 150,000 audience members in its 250 city grassroots tour and has been released by New Video on DVD. The film was nominated for the 2011 Academy Award for best documentary, Won the 2011 Emmy for best non fiction directing and was nominated for three other Emmys including best documentary, best writing and best cinematography, has been nominated for best Documentary Screenplay by the WGA, won the Environmental Media Association Award for best documentary and as a result of Josh’s activism and campaigning on the issue of gas drilling Josh was awarded the 2010 Lennon Ono Grant for Peace

by Yoko Ono in a ceremony on John Lennon’s 70th birthday in Reykjavik Iceland this October. As a national spokesman on the issues of the contamination resulting from fossil fuel extraction, Josh has appeared on the Daily Show, The Keith Olbermann show, PBS Now, numerous times on CNN, Democracy Now, MSNBC, CBS and NBC nightly news as well as numerous other TV and radio appearances. His two most recent projects, the workshop for RECONSTRUCTION, a stage drama, and GASLAND, a documentary feature film, represent a shift away from international collaboration themes in his work towards work focused on sustainability and the problems with fossil fuels and the need to transition to green energy. Awards and citations. Humanitarian and Environmental awards: 2010 John Lennon/ Yoko Ono Peace Prize, 2011 Planet Defender Award from Rock the Earth, 2011 Citizens Campaign for the Environment Equinox Award, Eco-Champion Manayunk/Philadelphia

City Council, Recipient of numerous congressional, state, local and county citations and proclamations. Film and Arts awards: Nominated for Best Documentary Oscar, 2011, Won Emmy for best non fiction programming, 2011 Nominated for 3 Emmy Awards including Best Doc, Writer, and Camera, Nominated for Best Documentary Screenplay Writer’s Guild of America, Won Environmental Media Award for Best Documentary, Won best graphic design 2011 Cinema Eye awards, Nominated for IDA Pare Lorentz Award, Won 2010 Sundance Film Festival Special Jury Prize, Won Big Sky Film Fest Artistic Vision Award, Won Yale Environmental Film Fest Grand Jury Prize, Won Sarasota International Film Fest Special Jury Prize, Won Traverse City Film Festival Best Environmental Documentary, Listed as Current TV 50 Best Documentaries of all time, Listed as Outside Magazine 25 most influential Docs of all time, Nominated for Drama Desk Award for Innovative Theatrical Experience, Won 2008 Otto Award for Theatre with a social mission.

# DO SOMETHING NOW.

After watching the film, many of your guests will wonder what they can do to take action. Read through these suggestions after the screening. Paste this list into an email to your guests so they have all the info they need to take action. Have a computer open with the Gasland Take Action page open so guests can write to their legislatures, sign up for alerts and find organizations while they're at the event.

## Act

1. Sign Food & Water Watch's petition to ban fracking [here](#) or text "Frack" to 69866.
2. Tell President Obama you're Not From Gasland. Use the hashtag #NotFromGasland on Facebook and Twitter. Print out our Not From Gasland postcards and post pictures from your house party with them.
3. Email President Obama [here](#) (sample email on page 11) and call at 1-888-660-2594 to leave this message: "Fracking threatens our air, water, climate and communities. Don't pursue policies that promote fracking and the export of natural gas. We need a ban on fracking now."
4. Find your local legislators [here](#) and send them a message so our elected officials at all levels of government know where their constituents stand on fracking.

## Connect

1. "Like" [Gasland](#) and [Americans Against Fracking](#) on Facebook to stay up to date on all fracking related news.
2. Go to the Americans Against Fracking website and connect with an organization working in your community or find a [Food & Water Watch office](#) and contact an organizer who will get you involved in campaigns and organizations near you.
3. If you're a member of a local organization, [sign up](#) to join the growing Americans Against Fracking coalition.

## Amplify

1. Post the Gasland II trailer [here](#) on your Facebook page, or email it to five friends to help raise awareness about this issue among your networks.
2. Write a letter to the editor of your local paper to express your concerns about fracking.
3. Share the actions above with your friends, family, and social networks to build the movement against fracking.

# LET'S TALK

After the credits roll, turn up the lights, grab a drink and get the conversation going. Here are some questions to start you off.

1. How do you feel? Which scenes were the most memorable, powerful or surprising to you?
2. In the film former Mayor of Dish, Texas Calvin Tillman said "Together we bargain, divided we beg." What can those in the room with you now do together?
3. Josh has said "The first film was about people lighting their water on fire. Gasland Part II is about our government lighting our democracy on fire" What was your reaction to the contamination of our democracy?
4. Industry representatives are adamant that gas drilling is a safe process despite the countless cases proving otherwise. If one of them was here tonight, what would you ask or say to them?
5. What questions do you have for Josh Fox?
6. Why do you think so many people are unaware of this issue? What are the hurdles in place that are preventing wider awareness about fracking? How can we increase awareness?
7. How can you protect your local community, state or country from the adverse effects of unregulated gas drilling?
8. Which of the vignettes did you find most compelling?
9. Is Gasland a skewed, one-sided portrayal of hydraulic fracturing? If you were to make the counter film, what would you show?
10. Have you contacted your state and local officials concerning fracking? Where do they stand? Are they for regulations, a moratorium, or a ban?



Special Thanks to our friends at Americans Against Fracking and Food & Water Watch for working with us to put this screening guide together.

## Americans Against Fracking

Americans Against Fracking is a coalition of over 200 national, state, and local organizations dedicated to banning fracking for oil and natural gas in order to protect our environment and communities for generations to come. We support efforts to ban fracking and stop practices that facilitate fracking like natural gas exports, frack sand mining and the construction of pipelines and terminals. From halting plans to open the Delaware River to fracking, to passing over 250 municipal measures against the practice, the movement to protect Americans from fracking has won significant victories.

Regulations alone won't protect us from this toxic, polluting process—we need to ban fracking now.

for more information go to [www.americansagainstfracking.org](http://www.americansagainstfracking.org)

## Food & Water Watch

Food & Water Watch is a leading consumer advocacy group based out of Washington D.C., with field offices across the country. Food & Water Watch works to ensure the food and water we consume is safe and sustainable, that corporations are held accountable, and that our government works to protect the public, not special interest profits. Working out of 16 state offices and Washington D.C, Food & Water Watch works to build powerful campaigns in partnership with national, state, and local grassroots organizations. Food & Water Watch was the first national organization to call for a national ban on fracking to protect communities across the country from this dangerous practice.

for more information go to [www.foodandwaterwatch.org](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org)



food&water watch



# SAMPLE EMAIL TO THE PRESIDENT

## Dear President Obama,

Fracked gas is not the solution, it's part of the problem.

It's not the solution for our energy needs, we have to go in the direction of renewable energy as vigorously as possible.

It's not the solution for our economy, it will destroy so much of our water, air and public resources.

It's not the solution for climate, fracked gas is the worst fuel we can develop in terms of greenhouse gases in the short time frame.

Please reconsider your enthusiasm for fracked gas.

Please meet with the families, engineers and scientists in GASLAND and GASLAND Part II.

[Click here](#) to send your email

DEAR PRESIDENT OBAMA,

*Jim Nott from*

**GAASLAND**

I'M FROM:



DEAR PRESIDENT OBAMA,

*Jim Nott from*

**GAASLAND**

I'M FROM



