

Marcellus EASE

PENNSTATE



MARCELLUSBYDESIGN

→ Practical Application



MarcellusByDesign brought student project work into the real world by applying principles learned in the

classroom setting to problems being faced in the surrounding communities. Designers, scientists, students, and community members came together to discuss solutions to the specific conditions individual communities faced in the context of shale gas development.



→ Sharing Complexity



In order to provide participants with a nuanced view of issues related to shale gas development, the

MarcellusByDesign workshops were intended to build awareness of the potential tensions and intersections inherent to community planning, as well as to highlight potential strategies for addressing community concerns in the context of large-scale development.

Public planning workshops exploring [landscape design solutions](#).

Marcellus Matters : Engaging Adults in Science and Energy (EASE) was a multidisciplinary initiative that provided adults in rural Pennsylvania with opportunities to increase their knowledge of science and energy systems and engage in scientific inquiry and investigation through the lens of natural gas development.

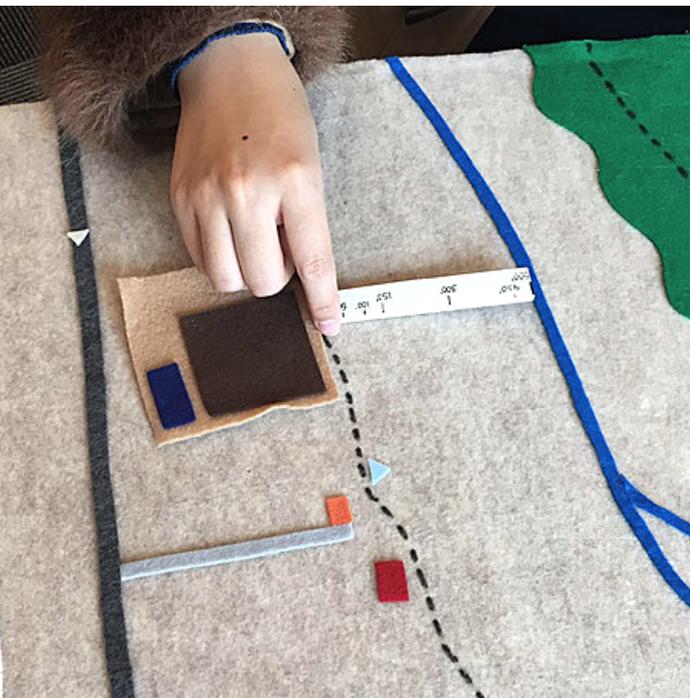
→ Legacy Resources



In order to provide participants with stable, robust online tools, the

workshop team developed a suite of documents, videos, games, and references to help communicate the same complexity in a different format. Through the website, the team also shared resources that were developed for specific communities, including presentations on topics such as water, native plant habitats, and ecotourism.

MarcellusByDesign was a suite of in-person experiences and online resources intended to help participants identify solutions to community planning challenges arising from local shale gas development. Drawing on the principles of landscape architecture, community planning workshops involved game elements designed to highlight the complexity of planning for land use, as well as community-specific ideas for managing the effects of shale gas development. In addition, the team developed a robust web presence in order to sustain these community supports beyond the funded grant. The central goal of MarcellusByDesign was to support community members by offering tools to engage in the planning discussions that affect their lives.



Key Findings from Evaluation



Audience data suggest that the program's feltboard activity was effective at helping participants see different rationales for and effects of placing wells in certain locations.



Participants generally agreed that they felt comfortable sharing their ideas and felt that they were heard, but they indicated slight disagreement that they held different perspectives from others in the audience.



Participants described possible applications of what they learned in the workshop as including exploration of the MBD website, sharing information with others, and including suggested planning strategies in upcoming community planning conversations.

"I found it very interesting to think about permitting & development in a new way...doing site design with the community involved--thinking through potential problems before they occur."

- MarcellusByDesign Participant



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AND EVALUATION

Lifelong Learning Group