



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP

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MINERAL LEASE GUIDELINES AVAILABLE TO AREA RESIDENTS

Saugatuck Township has assembled the information below as a public service to help private landowners who may need assistance when negotiating the leasing of mineral rights (primarily oil and gas) on their property.

As a landowner, you generally own both your land and the minerals within. You generally have the right to negotiate an acceptable lease, unless the rights are owned by a previous owner.

An oil, gas or mineral lease is an important legal document that defines the relationship between the lessor –the mineral rights owner, and the lessee – the party interested in producing/extracting the oil, gas or other minerals.

Because of the complex legal nature of the leasing arrangement, landowners may be at a disadvantage when dealing with an experienced lessor. Company leases, could possibly diminish potential earnings from property, and also affect property values, use of portions of your property, insurance rates, mortgage security, as well as health and safety.

Michigan State University has compiled related information available at the following links:

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/program/info/oil_and_gas (General oil and gas lease information)

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/offers_to_sell_mineral_rights_should_be_considered_carefully_part_1

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/offers_to_sell_mineral_rights_should_be_considered_carefully_part_2

Other valuable links for a landowner:

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/235/29659/Mineral_Rights_Sales_1-30-14.pdf

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/235/29659/Compulsory_Pooling_Fact_Sheet_Final_4-3-2013.pdf

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikjWrkGhR-g>

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/235/29659/Fact_Sheet_14-04_Grant_of_Easements_Information_for_Landowners.pdf

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/235/29659/Act_16_of_1929_as_amended.pdf

Saugatuck Township does not condone or condemn mineral rights leasing. The Township encourages potential lessees to study the information available and to seek legal advice before negotiating mineral rights leasing.