Fracking Waste in NY: Reuse and Disposal

More than 510,000 tons of solid waste and 23,000 barrels of liquid waste – and counting – from oil and gas extraction operations in neighboring Pennsylvania have been shipped to New York landfills for disposal. Liquid that drains from the landfills, or leachate, is then sent to nearby wastewater treatment facilities.

Disposal & Reuse Methods:

Landfill disposal
Due to a loophole in state law, solid waste management facilities in New York State may accept fracking waste, regardless of whether it would meet the definition of hazardous waste.

Wastewater treatment facilities
Landfill leachate can be sent to wastewater treatment facilities unequipped to handle contaminants in fracking waste, which may then be discharged into receiving waters.

Road spreading
New York State allows the use of conventional, low-volume oil and gas extraction waste and natural gas storage waste on roads for de-icing, dust control, and road stabilization. Waste spread on roads can run off into adjoining property and receiving waters.

New York landfills accepting fracking waste from Pennsylvania:
- Hakes C&D Landfill, Painted Post, NY (2010 – present)
- Chemung County Landfill, Lowman, NY (2010 – present)
- PA waste also sent to Environmental Products and Services storage facility in Syracuse, NY (2013 – 2014)

New York State also continues to allow the use of certain kinds of waste – production brine and storage brine – from conventional, low-volume oil and gas extraction and natural gas storage on our roads.

Learn more at www.riverkeeper.org/fracking-waste-in-new-york