A Lake-Front Property Owners Perspective

Ronald J. Gregory 952 Rock Lodge Road McHenry, Maryland

All Photographs Copyright, Ronald J. Gregory 2016

My name is Ronal J. Gregory- resident of Rockville, MD and owner of lake-front property at Deep Creek Lake along Rock Lodge Road, McHenry, MD.



Our family investment in Deep Creek property was intended as long term "play".



A place for family and friends to enjoy the lake & all of the natural resources Garrett County had to offerfor generations to come.



We purchased our lake-front property 11 years ago and have \$1m+ investment showing our commitment to the region.



During this time, and into the foreseeable future, we support the local economy in several ways above and beyond the usual trips to grocery, service stations, hardware store, bank, etc.



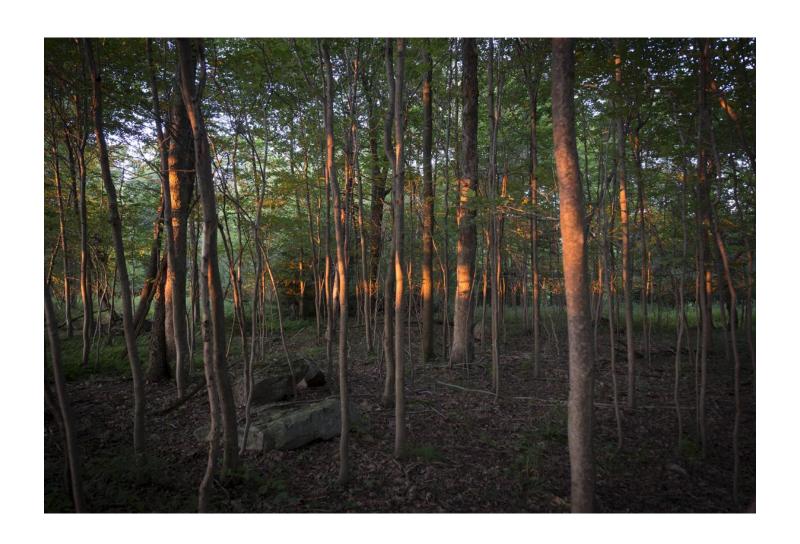
We hire local residents for: yard/tree maintenance, plumbing/electrical services, dock services, boat services including storage, pest control, security- just to name a few.



We contribute \$5k-\$7K per year for these serviceswhich are ongoing yearly expenditures.



In 2015 we suffered a house fire on DCL.



Fire/water/ smoke mitigation *plus* rebuilding costs exceeded **\$300k**.



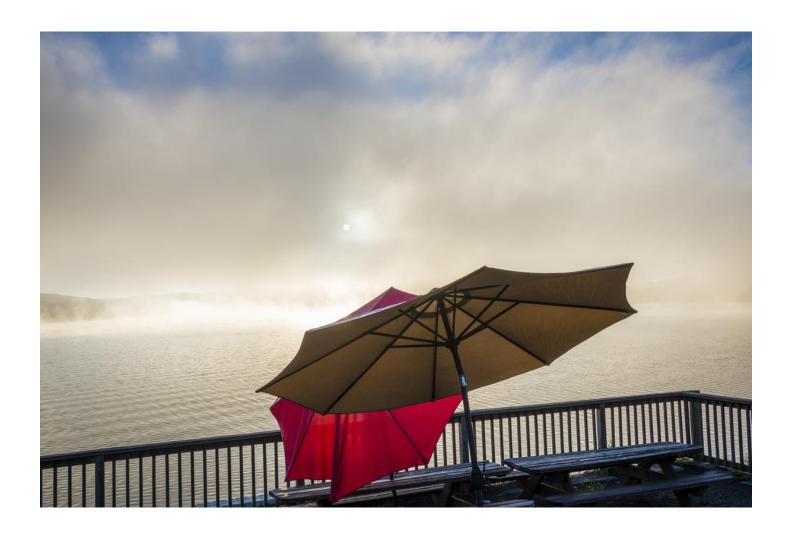
That money was spent entirely in Garrett County to cover the rebuilding of our house- we love our home on DCL.



In spite of our misfortune of 2015, we see our time at DCL as a win-win. We've become good stewards of the lake and heavy contributors to the tax base.



We support the local ancillary services and businesses that have grown up around the lake.



We have additional plans to enhance our property for landscape design/development services in 2017. We estimate \$40k and will use a local firm.

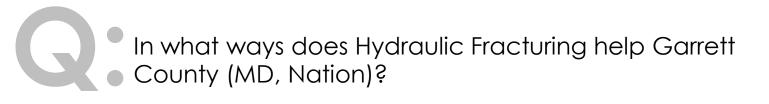


We share a commitment in making the community of Garrett County a great place for all residents and visitors.



We find the residents of Garrett County to be warm, intelligent, and friendly. We have many full-time residents of the County we call friends.









Do these benefit's outweigh the benefits of the current economic generator (Deep Creek Lake) in Garrett County?





Do we want to risk the primary economic asset of the region- that which has been around for 9 decades... for short-term gain?





Who really benefits the most at the local level?



There are no long-term investment horizons on the part of the Oil/Gas industry... Years, or even months are the norm.



In Summary:

This is where the political fight begins- in our own back yard..!



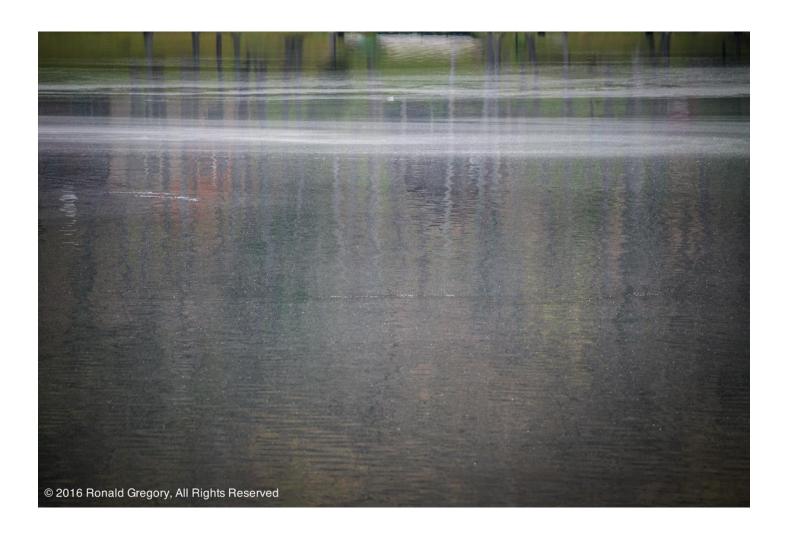
If "fracking" is approved for the County, we (me and my family), won't be waiting around to see what happens with fingers crossed...



We won't wait around to watch the damage occur to the watershed...



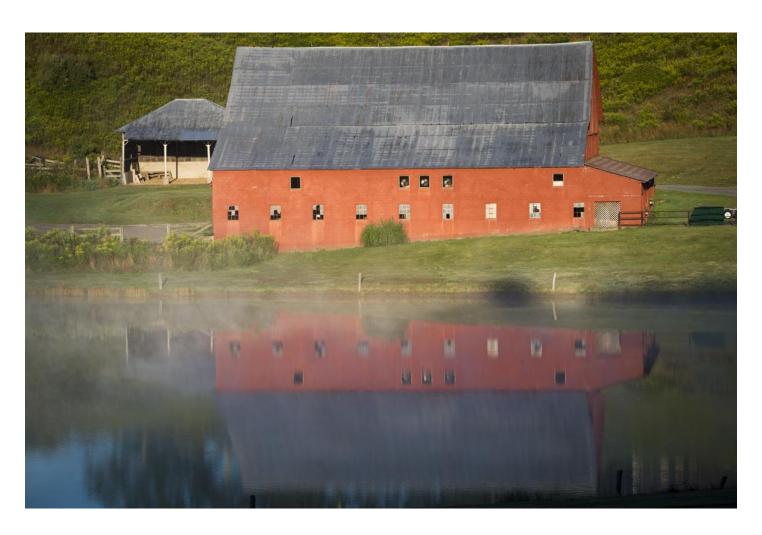
We won't wait around to watch the decline of the health of our lake asset...



If Hydraulic Fracturing **is** approved by the State of Maryland we **WILL** be selling our property ASAP, cutting our losses, moving on...



Our dreams of DCL will fade with the passage of time...I'll only have my photos as evidence of a better, safer, more congenial place.



You are our hope, please prevent Hydraulic Fracturing from happening in Garrett County!!!



All Photographs were taken in or around the Cunningham Swamp/ Cherry Creek Watershed.

