



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Citizen Watch-Dogs Monitor Tennessee Gas Pipeline Construction**

*Montague, NJ* – Due to local concerns over Tennessee Gas Pipeline’s Northeast Upgrade Project and requests from the community, Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) will be holding a fifth citizen monitoring workshop on May 20, 2013 from 5:30-8pm in Montague, NJ to train new concerned residents and monitors to watch-dog pipeline construction activities through the summer months.

Tennessee Gas Pipeline, a Kinder Morgan company, will be cutting through over 80 waterbodies to build a new natural gas pipeline that will carry fracked gas from the Marcellus shale region to other markets ([http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/resources/Factsheets/KMTennGasPipelinemap\\_091112.jpg](http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/resources/Factsheets/KMTennGasPipelinemap_091112.jpg) for overview map). These residents will join the corps of concerned trained volunteers who began watch-dogging the Tennessee Gas pipeline activities when tree cutting began in mid-February. DRN has an over two-decade year old monitoring program that has relied heavily on local trained residents to alert agencies and DRN to pollution events. According to **Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper**, “Volunteer monitors are a critical component to DRN’s scientific data collection efforts. Monitors were instrumental in helping to document sediment pollution to streams and wetlands from Tennessee Gas Pipeline when they cut through pristine streams in 2010 with the 300 Project. This time around we have mobilized many more volunteers to watchdog the company to document and catch them when they cut corners and pollute.”

Residents in the Upper Delaware Basin near the Tennessee Gas Pipeline route who want to become a volunteer monitor can learn more and register for the May 20<sup>th</sup> workshop at: <http://bit.ly/ZMp929>. In the Delaware Watershed, the project will cut through parts of Wayne, Pike and Sussex Counties which are home to some of the cleanest streams of the Delaware River Basin.

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