

Over 50,000 holes have been drilled in Michigan to date in the search for oil and gas, resulting in nearly 15,000 oil wells, over 13,000 natural gas wells, more than 3,000 facility wells and over 21,000 dry holes. From less than two percent of Michigan land area, 1.257 billion barrels of crude oil and 6.872 trillion cubic feet of natural gas have been produced from 64 Michigan Lower Peninsula counties. Michigan today is 17th largest crude oil producer and 11th largest natural gas producer of the 34 petroleum producing United States; learning from the past and working today with faith in the future.

ENERGY, EXHIBITS AND ENTERTAINMENT: DRAKE WELL MUSEUM IN THE 21ST CENTURY

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Our lives are dependent on the magic of oil and gas. Fuel prices are a rollercoaster ride in free fall. We're trapped in

a fun house filled with information about alternative energy and wondering which way to turn. But a hero called *History*, clothed in state-of-the-art techno garb and telling true stories in fascinating ways, might still be able to rescue us.

Drake Well Museum is developing a smorgasbord of ways to share artifacts and information about historical precedence that provides broad based references for exploring cause and effect. We strive to help visitors understand how our nation became dependent on oil and how it has survived the economic pitfalls of speculation and boom and bust production cycles.

Our proposed new exhibit interactives and educational programs can help people make environmentally sound energy decisions for the future by asking the important questions and making *apples to apples* comparisons. In partnership with the modern oil and gas industry, Drake Well has developed **MEET-U** – our *Mobile Energy Education Training – Unit*. It will take the stories of oil and gas production, technology, and history on the road to audiences ranging from elementary students to oilfield workers. And, while we cherish our museum's reputation for accuracy and objectivity, we can still make learning with real objects fun!



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