



**\*\*\* Notice to Emmaus Residents \*\*\***

## **Your Drinking Water Is At Risk**

All citizens have the right to clean air and clean, affordable water. This latter right is coming under threat in Emmaus.

On July 5th, claiming escalating management costs, the Emmaus Borough council voted 3-2 to authorize its water committee to work with a consultant to draft an agreement of sale for its water system. This draft agreement of sale was distributed to council members before the July 18th meeting.

Although the council could generate a quick financial windfall from selling its water system to a multinational corporation—an effort that could pay off some debts and possibly lower taxes in the short term—you should question this plan.

Throughout the world, giant multinational corporations have been trying to buy water rights, privatize publicly-owned water systems, promote bottled water, and sell "bulk" water by transporting it from water rich areas to water poor areas. These companies are also lobbying to weaken water quality standards.

### **Water privatization throughout the world has resulted in:**

- **Skyrocketing prices**
- **Water quality problems**
- **Deteriorating service**
- **Loss of local control**

### **What to do!**

**Attend a public meeting.** Emmaus Borough Council has scheduled for 7 p.m. August 8 and voice your opposition to privatizing the water system. The location for the meeting will be Borough Hall, unless the capacity of 75 is reached. If so, the meeting will reconvene later that evening at 7:30pm at Community Park Pavilion.

Call or write Craig B. Neely, council president who is up for re-election this fall, and tell him about your concerns about this sale. Neely (W: 610-965-9652), Sue Schmidt (H: 610 965-8086) and Lee Ann Gilbert were the 3 council members who voted for the sale on July 5<sup>th</sup>, before public opposition forced council to schedule the public hearing. Send letters to: Borough Council, Emmaus Borough Hall, 28 S 4<sup>th</sup> St. Emmaus PA 18049.

**Educate yourself.** Public showings of a *1 hour documentary* about water privatization, "**Thirst**" will be shown at **Muhlenberg College, Center for the Arts(Recital Hall) @ 5:00pm, Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup>** and at the **Emmaus Public Library @6:30pm Tue August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**For more information please visit our website at: [www.ourwaterlv.org](http://www.ourwaterlv.org)**