Some clips may be behind a paywall. If you need access to these clips, email me at trisfergus@pa.gov

Top DEP Stories

Tribune-Democrat: Grant takes aim at abandoned mine safety issues near Incline https://www.tribdem.com/news/grant-takes-aim-at-abandoned-mine-safety-issues-near-incline/article 79db1e68-ff17-11ed-8295-7779e1d27d9f.html

East Palestine Derailment

Cleveland 19: Independent testing finds dangerous chemicals at East Palestine family's farm https://www.cleveland19.com/2023/05/30/independent-testing-finds-dangerous-chemicals-east-palestine-familys-farm/

Mentions

Butler Eagle: Boil Water advisory lifted in Marion Township https://www.butlereagle.com/20230531/boil-water-advisory-lifted-in-marion-township/

Pa Environment Digest Blog: Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition: Jennings Environmental Center, 3MJC Host Historic Foltz One Room School Open House Events; Mine Drainage Treatment At Slippery Rock U. http://paenvironmentdaily.blogspot.com/2023/05/slippery-rock-watershed-coalition 30.html

Scranton Times: Replacement of underground conduit of Meadow Brook in Scranton affects four dozen properties

https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/news/replacement-of-underground-conduit-of-meadow-brook-in-scranton-affects-four-dozen-properties/article 77b01945-fc00-54d0-9ce6-9852ec2d2597.html

WESA: Pa. advocates say more scrutiny needed over well-plugging money https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2023-05-31/pennsylvania-oil-gas-well-plugging-money-scrutiny

Penn Capital Star: How Pa. lawmakers are clawing back the state's power to plug abandoned wells https://www.penncapital-star.com/energy-environment/how-pa-lawmakers-are-clawing-back-the-states-power-to-plug-abandoned-wells/

Air

Daily Local: Wildfire prompts 'Code Orange' air quality alert for region. Those with breathing difficulties advised to stay indoors.

https://www.dailylocal.com/2023/05/31/wildfire-prompts-code-orange-air-quality-alert-for-region-those-with-breathing-difficulties-advised-to-stay-indoors/

PhillyBurbs: National Weather Service issues air quality alert Wednesday due to fire in Nova Scotia https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/health/2023/05/31/air-quality-alert-code-orange-issued-national-weather-service-fire-nova-scotia/70272081007/

Pennlive: Wednesday's air quality could be unhealthy for some central Pa. residents, forecasters say https://www.pennlive.com/weather/2023/05/wednesdays-air-quality-could-be-unhealthy-for-some-central-pa-residents-forecasters-say.html

Pennlive: Some Pennsylvanians may see haze from Canadian wildfire https://www.pennlive.com/news/2023/05/some-pennsylvanians-may-see-haze-from-canadian-wildfire-today-in-pa.html

Lancaster Newspapers: Nova Scotia wildfire means unhealthy air quality in Lancaster County on Wednesday

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/nova-scotia-wildfire-means-unhealthy-air-quality-in-lancaster-county-on-wednesday/article 98c69ae6-ff26-11ed-acf4-dbd7a1a583a4.html

York Dispatch: Air quality alert issued for York County https://www.yorkdispatch.com/story/news/local/2023/05/31/code-orange-air-quality-alert-issued-for-york-county/70272082007/

Reading Eagle: Wildfire prompts 'Code Orange' air quality alert for region. Those with breathing difficulties advised to stay indoors.

https://www.readingeagle.com/2023/05/31/wildfire-prompts-code-orange-air-quality-alert-for-region-those-with-breathing-difficulties-advised-to-stay-indoors/

WFMZ: Pa. DEP declares Code Orange Air Quality Action Day for Lehigh Valley, Berks, parts of southeast Pa.

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/pennsylvania/pa-dep-declares-code-orange-air-quality-action-day-for-lehigh-valley-berks-parts-of/article_bdca5694-ff25-11ed-8b5c-5757d9bac45e.html

Towanda Daily Review: State DEP declares Code Orange Air Quality Action Day for fine particulate matter

https://www.thedailyreview.com/news/state-dep-declares-code-orange-air-quality-action-day-for-fine-particulate-matter/article 2c143630-fb65-5b46-8e02-719513fec3f1.html

WESA: Mon Valley leaders have \$5M in U.S. Steel fines to spend, but little has gone to public health https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2023-05-31/us-steel-5-million-fines-public-health-mon-valley

Climate Change

Penn State News: Strategic city planning can help reduce urban heat island effect https://www.psu.edu/news/agricultural-sciences/story/strategic-city-planning-can-help-reduce-urban-heat-island-effect/

Post-Gazette: 'Terrible public policy': Why the debt deal infuriates climate activists https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2023/05/31/mountain-valley-pipeline-eqt-equitrans-west-virginia-debt-ceiling-manchin-biden/stories/202305310048

Conservation and Recreation

Philadelphia Inquirer: BACK TO THE BOG 9,400 acres of cranberry farm once owned by a political boss is now a hiking gem.

https://www.inquirer.com/science/inq2/franklin-parker-preserve-new-jersey-hiking-trails-cranberry-farm-20230531.html

Altoona Mirror: Area recreation key to economic growth

https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2023/05/area-recreation-key-to-economic-growth/

abc27: Best hiking trails in Pennsylvania, according to Yelp

https://www.abc27.com/sports/best-hiking-trails-in-pennsylvania-according-to-yelp/

NorthcentralPA.com: Senators challenge proposal to use PA Wilds for low-level jet trainings https://www.northcentralpa.com/news/senators-challenge-proposal-to-use-pa-wilds-for-low-level-jet-trainings/article_a240a834-fef7-11ed-b6e8-a77f8f72e6cf.html

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Montour Preserve needs \$1M; nature area in dire financial crisis https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/052723/page/1/story/montour-preserve-needs-1m

Tribune-Review: Pa. Game Commission urges residents to leave young wildlife alone https://triblive.com/news/pennsylvania/pa-game-commission-urges-residents-to-leave-young-wildlife-alone/

Drought

York Daily Record: Is York County headed for a drought? This month will go down as the driest May on record

https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2023/05/31/drought-is-looming-for-central-pennsylvania-with-dry-conditions/70268113007/

FOX43: Ending May 2023 as the driest May on record, with our first 90-degree day coming! https://www.fox43.com/article/weather/forecast/harrisburg-york-lancaster-lebanon-pa/521-b2c50775-cbad-4f4b-b64d-3f39cb3f32f5

WGAL: Dry weather increases fire risk in Susquehanna Valley https://www.wgal.com/article/south-central-pennsylvania-dry-weather-increases-fire-risk/44043352

WGAL: Susquehanna Valley farmers work to keep crops alive despite lack of rain https://www.wgal.com/article/south-central-pennsylvania-farmers-work-to-keep-crops-alive-despite-lack-of-rain/44042363

Energy

Lancaster Newspapers: Pa. lawmakers ought to pass legislation to help people keep their electricity on when summer temperatures rise

https://lancasteronline.com/opinion/editorials/pa-lawmakers-ought-to-pass-legislation-to-help-people-keep-their-electricity-on-when-summer/article_9d857a7a-ff35-11ed-8cd7-474c1b9dd968.html

York Daily Record: Pennsylvania town on the brink, as power plant shuts. What's the impact for the state?

https://www.ydr.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/05/31/homer-center-pa-power-plant-set-to-close-as-rggi-decision-nears/70145981007/

Carlisle Sentinel: The easiest way to get a \$7,500 tax credit for an electric vehicle? Consider leasing. https://cumberlink.com/news/local/state-and-regional/the-easiest-way-to-get-a-7-500-tax-credit-for-an-electric-vehicle-consider/article b7071ffc-fefa-11ed-997c-2b50d7a72b0b.html

Lancaster Farming: Pennsylvania State Grange Talks Solar at Energy Conference https://www.lancasterfarming.com/pennsylvania-state-grange-talks-solar-at-energy-conference/article 019563ae-feeb-11ed-8c44-0b3d4cbb0961.html

Centre Daily Times: Would a \$50M lithium-ion battery factory help revitalize Philipsburg, retain talent? https://www.centredaily.com/news/local/community/philipsburg/article275919041.html?ac_cid=DM805557&ac_bid=-1234544041

Penn State News: Hydrogen battery: Storing hydrogen in coal may help power clean energy economy https://www.psu.edu/news/earth-and-mineral-sciences/story/hydrogen-battery-storing-hydrogen-coal-may-help-power-clean-energy/

Observer-Reporter: Hatfield power plant demolition to continue next week https://observer-reporter.com/news/localnews/hatfield-power-plant-demolition-to-continue-next-week/article 206fc6da-ff08-11ed-8d75-0310b8a55bbd.html

Next Pittsburgh: Digging up the secrets of the Frick Environmental Center https://nextpittsburgh.com/yinzer-backstage-pass/digging-up-the-secrets-of-the-frick-environmental-center/

Pittsburgh Business Times: [SPONSORED] Electrification results in cost savings, health and safety benefits

https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2023/05/30/electrification-cost-savings-health-safety-benefit.html

Tribune-Review: Letter to the editor: Coal can still provide reliable, cheap energy https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-coal-can-still-provide-reliable-cheap-energy/

Tribune-Review: Letter to the editor: Clean energy is our future https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-clean-energy-is-our-future/

Tribune-Review: Rep. Eric Nelson: Why is Shapiro so quiet on Pa.'s energy policy? https://triblive.com/opinion/rep-eric-nelson-why-is-shapiro-so-quiet-on-pa-s-energy-policy/

Tribune-Review: West Penn, Duquesne Light rates increasing for many this week https://triblive.com/local/regional/west-penn-duquesne-light-rates-increasing-for-many-on-thursday/

Post-Gazette: The easiest way to get a \$7,500 tax credit for an electric vehicle? Consider leasing. https://www.post-gazette.com/business/money/2023/05/30/7500-tax-credit-electric-vehicle-leasing-ev-purchase/stories/202305300068

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Grid Magazine: At former PES refinery, pollution concerns persist under the surface https://gridphilly.com/blog-home/2023/05/29/at-former-pes-refinery-pollution-concerns-persist-under-the-surface/

Beaver County Times: Biz in the Valley: Steel in Aliquippa, brownfield remediation & more https://www.timesonline.com/story/business/2023/05/31/biz-in-the-valley-steel-in-aliquippa-brownfield-remediation-more-beaver-county/70269811007/

Oil and Gas

Gettysburg Times: Pa. limited a board's power to regulate abandoned oil and gas wells; Democrats want to restore it.

https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/spotlight_pa/article_950a35ca-cf2b-5a04-8122-17a62eecd00b.html

WITF/StateImpact: Pa. advocates say more scrutiny needed over well-plugging money https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2023/05/30/pa-oil-gas-abandoned-wells-more-scrutiny-well-plugging-money/

WPXI: Some Elizabeth Township families concerned after well pad site approval https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/some-elizabeth-township-families-concerned-after-well-pad-site-approval/17ZKC55NK5AMBMLJOSWWII2F54/

Pittsburgh Business Times: Equitrans hails debt deal while environmental groups say MVP shouldn't be included

https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2023/05/30/mountain-valley-pipeline-opponents.html

Pittsburgh Business Times: Equitrans shares up sharply on debt deal's provision for Mountain Valley Pipeline

https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2023/05/30/equitrans-mountain-valley-pipeline.html

Tribune-Review: National average gas price expected to stay under \$4 this summer, analyst says https://triblive.com/local/regional/national-average-gas-price-expected-to-stay-under-4-this-summer-analyst-says/

PFAS

Pittsburgh Business Times: [SPONSORED] "Forever chemicals:" a PFAS regulatory update with Jean Mosites

https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2023/05/30/pfas-regulatory-update-with-jean-mosites.html

RGGI

Daily American: Pennsylvania town on the brink, as power plant shuts. What's the impact for the state? https://www.dailyamerican.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/05/31/homer-center-pa-power-plant-set-to-close-as-rggi-decision-nears/70145981007/

Waste

York Daily Record: York sets goal to become a plastic-free city, partners with CRDC Global https://www.ydr.com/story/news/2023/05/31/york-city-sets-goal-to-become-a-plastic-free-city-crdc-global/70270246007/

FOX43: York City sets goal to be first U.S. city with zero plastic waste https://www.fox43.com/article/news/local/york-first-city-zero-plastic-waste/521-27fd8dcd-be8c-4bc0-b31c-f5dcb73606b2

Post-Gazette: Editorial: Pittsburgh, state must clean up their act with stiffer penalties for littering and dumping

https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/editorials/2023/05/31/littering-dumping-fines-donna-bullock/stories/202305310014

Water

Standard Speaker: HCA debt to more than double under first phase of system upgrades https://www.standardspeaker.com/news/hca-debt-to-more-than-double-under-first-phase-of-system-upgrades/article_84f333dd-28ee-57ca-8943-ac315d084a48.html

Pennlive: Supreme Court just shriveled protection for wetlands, leaving many of these valuable ecosystems at risk

 $\frac{https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2023/05/supreme-court-just-shriveled-protection-for-wetlands-leaving-many-of-these-valuable-ecosystems-at-risk-opinion.html$

Altoona Mirror: Logan crew does Newburg stream work; needs permit https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2023/05/logan-crew-does-newburg-stream-work-needs-permit/

Altoona Mirror: Wopsononock Avenue bridge replacement over Spring Run set to begin on Thursday https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2023/05/wopsononock-avenue-bridge-replacement-over-spring-run-set-to-begin-on-thursday/

Huntingdon Daily News: Public input sought on watershed plan https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/public-input-sought-on-watershed-plan/article_57060cd0-0a01-5819-94a3-e7d636555f6f.html

WPXI: Some customers lose service after Wilkinsburg-Penn Joint Water Authority swaps to new payment system

https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/some-customers-lose-service-after-wilkinsburg-penn-joint-water-authority-swaps-new-payment-system/TMXK4MT6XBBOLC7WWSPHFAG55U/

West Nile

WGAL: West Nile virus shows up earlier in York County https://www.wgal.com/article/york-county-west-nile-virus-shows-up-earlier-than-last-year/44041690

Miscellaneous

Pennlive: Worker dies following fall into holding tank at sewage treatment plant https://www.pennlive.com/news/2023/05/worker-dies-following-fall-into-holding-tank-at-sewage-treatment-plant.html

Lancaster Newspapers: Texas man dies of injuries after fall at Ephrata Borough wastewater plant last week

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/texas-man-dies-of-injuries-after-fall-at-ephrata-borough-wastewater-plant-last-week/article 618b2b22-ff3b-11ed-9e87-4b6e1b68c18f.html

WGAL: Man dies of injuries suffered in fall at wastewater treatment plant in Lancaster County https://www.wgal.com/article/man-dies-of-injuries-suffered-in-fall-at-wastewater-treatment-plant-in-ephrata-lancaster-county/44040968

Altoona Mirror: Canoe Creek works to control invasive shrubbery in Blair County https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2023/05/canoe-creek-works-to-control-invasive-shrubbery-in-blair-county/

Lock Haven Express: Three-alarm fire wipes out greenhouse business in Nippenose Valley https://www.lockhaven.com/news/local-news/2023/05/three-alarm-fire-wipes-out-business-in-nippenose-valley/

Lock Haven Express: Crews battle blaze at Sugar Valley Greenhouse https://www.lockhaven.com/news/local-news/2023/05/crews-battle-blaze-at-sugar-valley-greenhouse-2/

Tribune-Review: Pittsburgh area can expect more dry, hot days https://triblive.com/local/regional/pittsburgh-residents-to-expect-more-dry-hot-days/