

*Some clips may be behind a paywall. If **Regional** employees need access to these clips, please contact your **Regional Communications Manager** (NWRO – Tom Decker; NCRO – Megan Lehman; NERO – Colleen Connolly; SERO – Stephanie Berardi; SCRO – John Repetz; SWRO – Lauren Camarda). If **Central Office** staff (and others outside of DEP) need access to these clips, please email me at kedeibert@pa.gov*

Top DEP Stories

Times Observer: DEP sends out \$15M to lower rural power outage risk

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2024/08/dep-sends-out-15m-to-lower-rural-power-outage-risk/>

Mentions

WESA: Pa. Supreme Court collecting briefs in RGGI case

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2024-08-12/pennsylvania-supreme-court-rggi-briefs>

Tribune-Review: Parts of former Sheetz in Plum demolished; property for lease

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/parts-of-former-sheetz-in-plum-demolished-property-for-lease/>

Tribune-Review: A year after the fatal Rustic Ridge house explosion, the Plum community still awaits a reason why

<https://triblive.com/news/uncategorized/still-no-answers-a-year-after-the-fatal-rustic-ridge-house-explosion-the-plum-community-awaits-news-of-a-cause/>

WTaj: Cambria County residents say authorities to blame for flood damage

<https://www.wtaj.com/news/local-news/cambria-county-residents-say-authorities-to-blame-for-flood-damage/>

Milton Standard-Journal: Warrior Run Creek restoration underway

https://www.standard-journal.com/news/local/article_94685a82-5599-11ef-a4f2-c3c9ac53fc95.html

Bartram's Garden / 51st Street Alliance Contamination

WHYY: What to know about the chemical contamination at Bartram's Garden

<https://whyy.org/articles/chemical-spill-bartrams-garden-department-environmental-protection/>

Plum Home Explosion

Post-Gazette: Officials offer update, no answers 1 year after Rustic Ridge house explosion

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/east/2024/08/12/plum-rustic-ridge-explosion/stories/202408120054>

Post-Gazette: Plum church bells will toll to mark 1 year since deadly Rustic Ridge house explosion

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/east/2024/08/11/plum-pennsylvania-rustic-ridge-house-explosion-update/stories/202408070073>

KDKA: Plum community continues to heal one year after deadly Rustic Ridge house explosion
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/plum-community-continues-to-heal-one-year-after-deadly-rustic-ridge-house-explosion/>

WTAE: Plum House Explosion: Lengthy investigation continues 1 year later
<https://www.wtae.com/article/plum-house-explosion-one-year/61848431>

WPXI: Plum community coming together Monday to remember neighbors killed in house explosion
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/plum-community-coming-together-monday-remember-neighbors-killed-house-explosion/NENFZI2WPJARFE6QDFOF76J22Y/>

Air

Observer-Reporter: Outdoor burning banned in North Franklin
<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2024/aug/12/outdoor-burning-banned-in-north-franklin/>

WTAE: North Franklin under outdoor burn ban
<https://www.wtae.com/article/north-franklin-township-burn-ban/61848143>

Tribune-Review: Burning bans lifted in Derry, Unity townships
<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/burning-bans-lifted-in-derry-unity-townships/>

Climate Change

Republican Herald: Chesapeake Bay watershed is getting healthier, more work still needed
https://www.republicanherald.com/news/chesapeake-bay-watershed-is-getting-healthier-more-work-still-needed/article_9061f69c-569f-5433-bf56-ca53148229dd.html

KDKA: Coaches and medical experts keep safety at the forefront amid a changing climate
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/coaches-student-athletes-adjust-changing-climate/>

Conservation and Recreation

Post-Gazette: Chatham University's Eden Hall campus is a living, breathing embodiment of environmental consciousness
<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/dining/2024/08/12/chatham-university-eden-hall-sustainable-campus-richland/stories/202405010106>

Post-Gazette: No downtown park
<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2024/08/11/no-downtown-park/stories/202408110085>

WESA: A new report recommends ways to keep Pennsylvania wildlife and drivers safe
<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2024-08-10/pennsylvania-wildlife-corridor-vehicle-collisions-report>

Allegheny Front: A Pittsburgh-area teacher finds plastic and inspiration on a Lake Erie research expedition
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/a-pittsburgh-area-teacher-finds-plastic-and-inspiration-on-a-lake-erie-research-expedition/>

Allegheny Front: Pa. mom starts non-profit to help everyone get healing power of nature
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/northeastern-pennsylvania-outdoor-recreation-wild-wellness/>

Allegheny Front: Fishing and boating projects in Allegheny County win state grants
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/fishing-and-boating-recreation-allegheny-county-state-grants/>

The Almanac: Deep roots: Several Peters Township trees have stood for more than a century
<https://www.thealmanac.net/news/2024/aug/11/deep-roots-several-peters-township-trees-have-stood-for-more-than-a-century/>

Tribune-Review: Freeport, Fox Chapel become Bird Towns; Tarentum to consider joining
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/freeport-fox-chapel-become-bird-towns-tarentum-to-consider-joining/>

Tribune-Review: Community fruit grove on ATI property proposed for Brackenridge
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/community-fruit-grove-on-ati-property-proposed-for-brackenridge/>

Tribune-Review: Wooden footbridge in Brackenridge will connect sections of Three Rivers Heritage Trail
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/wooden-footbridge-in-brackenridge-will-connect-sections-of-three-rivers-heritage-trail/>

Centre Daily Times: Take a peak at the renovated PGC Scotia Shooting Range in Halfmoon Township
https://www.centredaily.com/sports/outdoors/article290874774.html#campaignName=statecollege_morning_newsletter

MyChesco: Exciting Expansion of Deer Management Program in Pennsylvania
<https://www.mychesco.com/a/news/pennsylvania/exciting-expansion-of-deer-management-program-in-pennsylvania/>

WITF: A new report recommends ways to keep Pennsylvania wildlife and drivers safe
<https://www.witf.org/2024/08/12/a-new-report-recommends-ways-to-keep-pennsylvania-wildlife-and-drivers-safe/>

Drought

Tribune-Democrat: 'Disaster' support: Declarations give region's drought-stricken farms chance for emergency loans

https://www.tribdem.com/news/disaster-support-declarations-give-regions-drought-stricken-farms-new-support/article_ba4844d6-564f-11ef-b128-03c47cd3e535.html

Energy

Times Observer: Planners look to other wind ordinances for guidance

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2024/08/planners-look-to-other-wind-ordinances-for-guidance/>

Post-Gazette: Pa. needs to level the energy playing field

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2024/08/11/pa-needs-to-level-the-energy-playing-field/stories/202408110031>

Beaver County Times: Western PA leads the charge in 'green economy'

<https://beavercountyradio.com/news/western-pa-leads-the-charge-in-green-economy/>

Latrobe Bulletin: Township residents ask supervisors to tighten up solar farm ordinance

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/township-residents-ask-supervisors-to-tighten-up-solar-farm-ordinance/article_29d218c8-55e1-11ef-be5e-1bd3eb89abd8.html

Tribune-Democrat: Terry Fitzpatrick | Energy issue facing the state

https://www.tribdem.com/news/editorials/columns/terry-fitzpatrick-energy-issue-facing-the-state/article_da4e7d98-566f-11ef-ab5b-d34adf0c8826.html

Tribune-Review: Proposed new Derry-Ligonier power line to follow path of existing one

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/proposed-new-derry-ligonier-power-line-to-follow-path-of-existing-one/>

Carlisle Sentinel: Carlisle approves purchase, installation of EV charging stations for borough use

https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/carlisle-borough-ev-electric-vehicle-charging-stations/article_34c44ca2-5676-11ef-af39-b3d536de03c7.html#tracking-source=home-top-story

Mining

Observer-Reporter: PA Bituminous King Coal Show returns Aug. 17-24

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2024/aug/11/pa-bituminous-king-coal-show-returns-aug-17-24/>

Oil and Gas

Tribune-Review: Terrie Baumgardner: Fracking and Harris — how close is too close?

<https://triblive.com/opinion/terrie-baumgardner-fracking-and-harris-how-close-is-too-close/>

Radiation Protection

cbs21 News: TMI Unit 2 decommissioning to have "small" impact on environment, regulators say
<https://local21news.com/news/local/three-mile-island-unit-2-decommissioning-nuclear-regulatory-commission-environment-middleton-dauphin-county-pennsylvania-partial-meltdown-august-2024#>

Vector Management

Erie Times: Malaria, a common tropical disease, has been found in at least two Erie County residents
<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/healthcare/2024/08/12/malaria-diagnosis-erie-county-pa-department-of-health-reports-two-cases/74734528007/>

Times Herald: Bucks County ranks among highest rates for West Nile Virus in Pennsylvania
<https://www.thereporteronline.com/2024/08/11/bucks-county-ranks-among-highest-rates-for-west-nile-virus-in-pennsylvania/>

Gettysburg Times: Lyme disease still a threat
https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/local/article_78f8f56e-55c5-11ef-82f3-6b60a2438cfc.html

Waste

Pittsburgh Union Progress: Recycle those household chemicals at PRC Boyce Park collection event
<https://www.unionprogress.com/2024/08/10/recycle-those-household-chemicals-at-prc-boyce-park-collection-event/>

Allegheny Front: Kayak tour allows Pittsburghers to transform trash into art
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/kayak-tour-allows-pittsburghers-to-transform-trash-into-art/>

Herald-Standard: Recycle most challenging household items: It can be done
https://www.heraldstandard.com/editors_pick/2024/aug/12/recycle-most-challenging-household-items-it-can-be-done/

Water

KDKA: Water main break beneath Fort Duquesne Bridge sends water pouring down
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/water-main-break-fort-duquesne-bridge/>

Observer-Reporter: Lawmakers raise concerns about Elizabeth Locks and Dam water levels
<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2024/aug/10/lawmakers-raise-concerns-about-elizabeth-locks-and-dam-water-levels/>

Latrobe Bulletin News: Derry Township Supervisors remove Charles Ferry DTMA Board at latest regular meeting
https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/derry-township-supervisors-remove-charles-ferry-dtma-board-at-latest-regular-meeting/article_c9ddf6ac-53f7-11ef-a93d-e717b49984a8.html

Pittsburgh Business Times: U.S. Army Corps speeds up work to clear Mon River channel
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2024/08/09/elizabeth-lock-dam-work-sped-up.html>

Sunbury Daily Item: City Council meets to discuss possible sale of municipal authority
https://www.dailyitem.com/news/city-council-meets-to-discuss-possible-sale-of-municipal-authority/article_85b6f49c-57d5-11ef-9e4b-37f1905e81c5.html

Shamokin News Item: No major flooding reported in North'd Co.; Union County situation more severe
https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/no-major-flooding-reported-in-northd-co-union-county-situation-more-severe/article_bc5d5b90-5667-11ef-ab57-77714bcfe7f0.html

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Flooding, downed trees from tropical rain Debby destroy homes, infrastructure throughout Lycoming County and beyond
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2024/08/flooding-downed-trees-from-tropical-storm-debby-destroy-homes-infrastructure-throughout-lycoming-county-and-beyond/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Boil water advisory for Jersey Shore
<https://www.sungazette.com/uncategorized/2024/08/boil-water-advisory-for-jersey-shore/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Trout Run firehouse takes on heavy damage in storm
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2024/08/trout-run-firehouse-takes-on-heavy-damage-in-storm/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Trout Run community promises to bounce back
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2024/08/trout-run-community-promises-to-bounce-back/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Trout Run residents hoping to get back to normal
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2024/08/trout-run-residents-hoping-to-get-back-to-normal/>

WBRE: The cleanup of Debby continues in Trout Run
<https://www.pahomepage.com/news/the-cleanup-of-debby-continues-in-trout-run/>

WBRE: Long road to recovery for Trout Run after flooding
<https://www.pahomepage.com/news/long-road-to-recovery-for-trout-run-after-flooding>

Centre Daily Times: Heavy rain in Centre County closes roadways, causes flooding. Here's what we saw
https://www.centredaily.com/news/weather-news/article290885374.html#campaignName=statecollege_morning_newsletter

Lancaster Online: Caution urged for boaters using waterways upstream of Holtwood Dam due to open sections of boat barrier
https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/caution-urged-for-boaters-using-waterways-upstream-of-holtwood-dam-due-to-open-sections-of/article_a95ec88a-58d8-11ef-8908-2bcd044fb0ea.html

York Daily Record: Harrisburg's plan to stop dumping raw sewage into the river is inadequate | Opinion
<https://www.ydr.com/story/opinion/readers/2024/08/09/harrisburg-plan-to-stop-dumping-raw-sewage-into-river-inadequate/74724391007/>

Carlisle Sentinel: UPDATED: PA American Water to conduct two rounds of testing before lifting boil water advisory
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/updated-pa-american-water-to-conduct-two-rounds-of-testing-before-lifting-boil-water-advisory/article_c6770dfe-5704-11ef-bc91-1b5b0ed7372a.html#tracking-source=home-top-story

cbs21 News: PA American Water Mechanicsburg system restored; boil water advisory remains
<https://local21news.com/news/local/pa-american-water-mechanicsburg-system-restored-boil-advisory-remains#>

Miscellaneous

Erie Times: A Lake Erie swamp monster? Alligator sighting begs question: What else is Lake Erie hiding
<https://www.goerie.com/story/sports/outdoors/2024/08/12/did-people-see-a-swamp-monster-aliens-alligators-and-sharks-in-lake-erie/74740504007/>

Erie Times: What is the Erie Coke site's value? 'Less than zero,' new owners claim to reduce taxes
<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/local/2024/08/12/erie-western-pa-port-authority-seeks-erie-coke-tax-exemption/74737791007/>

Post-Gazette: Leaders at Beaver County's Shell plant admit to rocky start but insist operations are stabilizing
<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2024/08/11/shell-petrochemical-potter-beaver-county-heather-michaux/stories/202408110011>

WJAC: Local businesses recovering after Emporium battles unprecedented flooding
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/local-businesses-recovering-after-emporium-battles-unprecedented-flooding#>

Tribune-Review: Creek inundates northern Indiana County town as Tropical Storm Debby pours on rain
<https://triblive.com/local/regional/creek-inundates-northern-indiana-county-town-as-tropical-storm-debby-pours-on-rain/>

Tribune-Review: Unity family's ATV use on farm pits them against neighbors
<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/unity-familys-atv-use-on-farm-pits-them-against-neighbors/>

Lewistown Sentinel: Ag Progress Days to focus on farm bill, ag policy, technology
<https://www.lewistownsentinel.com/sports/penn-state/2024/08/ag-progress-days-to-focus-on-farm-bill-ag-policy-technology/>