

*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 – Patti Monahan; SERO – Robyn Briggs; SCRO – John Repetz; SWRO – Laina Aquiline). If **Central Office** staff (and others outside of DEP) need access to these clips, please email me at brandongla@pa.gov*

Top DEP Stories

TribLive: Environmentalists urge DEP to make Tenaska power plant meet air pollution requirements to get permit

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/environmentalists-urge-dep-to-make-tenaska-power-plant-meet-air-pollution-requirements-to-get-permit/>

Clairton Coke Works Explosion

Pittsburgh Business Times: Clairton Coke Works battery to return to operation months after deadly blast

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/02/04/united-states-steel-clairton-coke-works.html>

WTAE: Second battery involved in Clairton Plant explosion to be restarted, U.S. Steel says

<https://www.wtae.com/article/second-battery-clairton-plant-explosion-restart-us-steel/70249664>

WPXI: U.S. Steel to restart second battery involved in deadly explosion

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/us-steel-restart-second-battery-involved-deadly-explosion/7PAWUWUVFJCV3KPT7RAWP6JOGY/>

Air

Daily Local: With new phorid fly emergency declaration, Kennett Square calls hydrogen sulfide threat to public health

<https://www.dailylocal.com/2026/02/04/with-new-phorid-fly-emergency-declaration-kennett-square-calls-hydrogen-sulfide-threat-to-public-health/>

Conservation and Recreation

Tribune-Democrat: Cambria County Conservation District's tree and plant sale catalog available

https://www.tribdem.com/news/cambria-county-conservation-districts-tree-and-plant-sale-catalog-available/article_8db2ce85-638b-462e-9884-724b6443d5e7.html

Erie-Times: Game Commission Presents Annual Report To House Committee

<https://www.goerie.com/story/sports/outdoors/2026/02/03/pa-game-commission-executive-director-highlights-recent-projects-hunting/88495718007/>

Erie-Times: Pennsylvania's Hidden Wildlife Corridors Save Animals, Drivers

<https://www.goerie.com/story/sports/outdoors/2026/02/04/pa-wildlife-crossings-how-they-save-animals-and-drivers-penn-dot-game-commission-deer-black-bears/88490262007/?tbref=hp>

WFMZ: Berks lending program offers opportunities to go snowshoeing in county parks for free
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/berks-lending-program-offers-opportunities-to-go-snowshoeing-in-county-parks-for-free/article_77307a4e-7093-4141-9483-051ff8328d2f.html

Data Centers

Latrobe Bulletin: Latrobe Planning Commission considers accessory dwelling unit rules, data centers, solar farms

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/latrobe-planning-commission-considers-accessory-dwelling-unit-rules-data-centers-solar-farms/article_08aef77c-d2f2-4828-b3ec-303342fe56de.html

Pittsburgh Business Times: Here are more details on the \$10B Beaver County data center project
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/02/04/aligned-data-center-shippingport.html>

Allegheny Front: Pa. Gov. Josh Shapiro wants more data centers but they need to bring their own power
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvania-josh-shapiro-data-centers-proposal-water-power/>

WVIA: DATA CENTERS: Residents fear negative impacts on water resources as data centers are proposed across Northeast Pa.

<https://www.wvia.org/news/local/2026-02-04/data-centers-residents-fear-negative-impacts-on-water-resources-as-data-centers-are-proposed-across-northeast-pa>

Bucks County Beacon: With Electricity Bills Rising, Some States Consider New Data Center Laws
<https://buckscountybeacon.com/2026/02/with-electricity-bills-rising-some-states-consider-new-data-center-laws/>

Levittown Now: With Data Center Being Built In Falls Twp., Governor Calls For Standards Amid Growth
<https://levittownnow.com/2026/02/04/with-data-center-being-built-in-falls-twp-governor-calls-for-standards-amid-growth/>

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: Wysox details proposed data center ordinance
<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/wysox-details-proposed-data-center-ordinance/>

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Data center site eyed; Briar Creek Township puts four parcels on overlay
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/020526/page/1/story/data-center-site-eyed>

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Say NO to rezoning land (LTE)
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/020526/page/16/story/say-no-to-rezoning-land>

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Vote no and preserve our farmland (LTE)
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/020526/page/16/story/vote-no-and-preserve-our-farmland>

Energy

WJAC: Construction of new \$20M facility to train electrical workers underway in Cambria County
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/new-20m-facility-to-train-electrical-workers-underway-in-cambria-county>

Carlisle Sentinel: Solar energy project proposed for Middlesex Township
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_ca066852-35bc-4909-9723-e45b5eebb7a0.html

Huntingdon Daily News: Supervisors hear solar project concerns
https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/supervisors-hear-solar-project-concerns/article_57b9a03a-adba-485d-be96-4ec792b73a7b.html

WHYY: Pa. Gov. Shapiro says investor-owned utilities are making too much profit at the expense of ratepayers
<https://whyy.org/articles/shapiro-utility-profits-plans-junk-fees/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Carlisle Sentinel: Demolition permit remains up in the air for Carlisle's former Frog, Switch site
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_2df926fb-ef70-4be3-9839-e6f2633cdf61.html

Mining

WPSU: Blair County volunteers hope to preserve history of abandoned coal mining town near Horseshoe Curve
<https://radio.wpsu.org/2026-02-04/blair-county-preserve-history-abandoned-coke-coal-mining-glen-white-horseshoe-curve>

Oil and Gas

Wyoming County Examiner: UGI seeks another gas rate hike in March
<https://www.wcexaminer.com/2026/01/28/ugi-seeks-another-gas-rate-hike-in-march/>

PFAS

Philly Burbs: Buckingham will allocate nearly \$5M to remove PFAS from township water
<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/local/2026/02/04/buckingham-spending-5million-pfas-forever-chemicals-local-water-system-bucks-county/88492657007/>

AP News: Inside America's carpet capital: an empire and its toxic legacy
<https://apnews.com/projects/pfas-forever-stained/>

AP News: A crisis emerges across the US as ‘forever chemicals’ quietly contaminate drinking water wells
<https://apnews.com/article/pfas-wells-contamination-forever-chemicals-water-b132294aca85d569926dbf47c0d02355>

Waste

Latrobe Bulletin: Youngstown Borough grants 3% raises, hears sewer lawsuit update and ordinance dispute
https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/youngstown-borough-grants-3-raises-hears-sewer-lawsuit-update-and-ordinance-dispute/article_6f0ea925-56b0-4364-9d03-59a5e45a4c40.html

Carlisle Sentinel: Joint trash contract for several Cumberland County municipalities scraps bulk item pickup
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_3f5396cc-1be0-4cd4-9f44-636ecd5b0e12.html

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: Eureka misses deadlines to remove waste from plant
<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/eureka-misses-deadlines-to-remove-waste-from-plant/>

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: Farmer asks commissioners to ban biosolids on farm fields
<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/farmer-asks-commissioners-to-ban-biosolids-on-farm-fields/>

Water

The Mon Valley Independent: Magistrate’s office condemned due to extensive damage from water leak
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/02/05/magistrates-office-condemned-due-to-water-leak/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Coast Guard restricts transit on parts of Ohio River amid ice woes
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/transportation/2026/02/04/pittsburgh-rivers-ice-weather-ohio/stories/202602040057>

Herald-Standard: Army Corps keeps river traffic moving despite frigid temps, icy conditions
https://www.heraldstandard.com/news/local_news/2026/feb/05/army-corps-keeps-river-traffic-moving-despite-frigid-temps-icy-conditions/

Lehighvalleylive: Pennsylvania officials urge residents to stay off frozen rivers and streams
<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/outdoors/2026/02/pennsylvania-officials-urge-residents-to-stay-off-frozen-rivers-and-streams.html>

Standard Speaker: Hazleton City Authority cautions customers about frozen pipes
<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2026/02/03/hazleton-water-authority-cautions-customers-about-frozen-pipes/>

The Derrick: Chilly Temperatures Bring Back Memories Of Forgotten Ice Floods In Oil Region’s History

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/frozen-records-chilly-temperatures-bring-back-memories-of-forgotten-floods-in-oil-regions-history/article_400f3043-ea42-41af-8a13-8b71dfd3de71.html

Lancaster Online: Route 772 in West Earl Twp. to be closed for over a week for water main, sinkhole repairs

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/route-772-in-west-earl-twp-to-be-closed-for-over-a-week-for-water/article_b483b1c0-d486-47b3-bc3d-f77bf5319460.html?utm_source=asset_link&utm_medium=Local%20News&utm_campaign=user_choice

CBS21: Sinkhole expands overnight, closes Lancaster County road for week

<https://local21news.com/news/local/lancaster-county-sinkhole-expands-road-will-remain-closed-fire-station>

WGAL: Sinkhole opens up in Lancaster community, bringing neighbors together

<https://www.wgal.com/article/a-sinkhole-has-emerged-at-the-intersection-of-state-and-locust-streets-causing-disruption-but-also-bringing-the-local-community-together/70251412>

Lancaster Online: Susquehanna River ice could turn hazardous as temperatures rise

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/susquehanna-river-ice-could-turn-hazardous-as-temperatures-rise/article_7a71af45-f71b-4bf3-9e5b-60b6586ffcb8.html

ABC27: PFBC warns of dangers of walking on frozen rivers

<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/pfbc-warns-of-dangers-of-walking-on-frozen-rivers/>

WGAL: Growing concerns over ice jams & how to prepare for them

<https://www.wgal.com/article/growing-concerns-over-ice-jams-how-to-prepare-for-them/70248840>

WFMZ: Frozen Schuylkill River poses safety risks; flooding concerns

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/frozen-schuylkill-river-poses-safety-risks-flooding-concerns/article_38bf54f8-3c00-479e-b2cb-22726ac0d0f5.html

Lebtown: North Cornwall approves Nolt's Garden Center, 700 E. Penn land development

<https://lebtown.com/2026/02/05/north-cornwall-approves-nolts-garden-center-700-e-penn-land-development/>

Altoona Mirror: Altoona Water Authority seeking grants for Mill Run spillway repairs

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/02/altoona-water-authority-seeking-grant-for-mill-run-spillway-repairs/>

Altoona Mirror: Altoona Water Authority hires firm

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/02/altoona-water-authority/>

CBS21: Mercersburg fire hydrant dispute ignites community, social media backlash

<https://local21news.com/news/local/mercersburg-fire-hydrant-dispute-ignites-community-social-media-backlash>

FOX43: Volunteer fire company accuses Mercersburg Water Authority of denying hydrant use, telling them to "let the building burn"

<https://www.fox43.com/article/news/local/franklin-county/volunteer-fire-company-accuses-mercersburg-water-authority-of-denying-hydrant-use-telling-them-to-let-the-building-burn/521-7fa7f3f9-50c0-4b2c-aa41-618fbd9c2d76>

WGAL: 'Let the building burn': Franklin County fire company claims water authority denies hydrant access

<https://www.wgal.com/article/pa-mercersburg-mmpw-fire-company-says-water-authority-denied-hydrants/70244096>

WFMZ: 7,500-bed ICE detention facility coming to Schuylkill County, commissioners confirm

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/7-500-bed-ice-detention-facility-coming-to-schuylkill-county-commissioners-confirm/article_a42107cb-5d8b-45ba-a81c-da1e527f3578.html

Philly Burbs: Shapiro's leadership is essential to the Chesapeake's health | Opinion

<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/opinion/2026/02/05/chesapeake-bay-waters-pennsylvania-leadership-opinion/88491561007/>

Miscellaneous

Times-Tribune: Fire at Lehigh Valley Hospital-Dickson City; 77 patients evacuated

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/02/04/fire-at-lehigh-valley-hospital-dickson-city-patients-evacuated/>

WDEL: DNREC denies data center application

https://www.wdel.com/business/dnrec-denies-data-center-application/article_81ddc6b2-d304-45c9-adba-9250478461c1.html#/questions

WHYY: Proposed Delaware City data center hits major setback from environmental regulators

<https://whyy.org/articles/delaware-city-data-center-setback-environment/>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: The Schuylkill is frozen, but that doesn't mean you can ice fish on it

<https://www.inquirer.com/life/schuylkill-river-ice-fishing-20260204.html>

6abc: Icy Delaware River delays Philadelphia's salt resupply

<https://6abc.com/post/icy-delaware-river-delays-philadelphias-salt-resupply/18544466/>

Delco Today: Pennsylvania Game Commission OKs Edgmont Game Land Deal

<https://delco.today/2026/02/pennsylvania-game-commission-oks-land-deal/>