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Top DEP Stories

Bradford Era: DEP declares statewide Code Red air quality alert for July 16

<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/07/15/dep-declares-statewide-code-red-air-quality-alert-thursday/>

Butler Eagle: Wildfire smoke creates unhealthy air quality Thursday

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20260716/wildfire-smoke-creates-unhealthy-air-quality-thursday/>

The Derrick: Statewide code red air quality alert issued for Thursday

https://www.thederrick.com/free/statewide-code-red-air-quality-alert-issued-for-thursday/article_6f0aa034-1258-4b20-ab8e-12b4c9df9289.html

WICU-TV: Air Quality Advisory Doesn't Keep Crowds Away From UPMC Sunset Music Series at Presque Isle

https://www.erienewsnow.com/news/air-quality-advisory-doesnt-keep-crowds-away-from-upmc-sunset-music-series-at-presque-isle/article_8de2d5be-19c8-4c82-906c-23cebb3330f1.html

Erie Times: Smoky skies return to Erie area due to Canadian wildfires

<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/healthcare/2026/07/15/smoky-skies-erie-pa-canadian-wildfires/90927463007/>

Mentions

WESA: Wildfire smoke pushes into Pittsburgh region, triggers Code Red air quality alert

<https://www.wesanews.org/environment-energy/2026-07-16/code-red-air-quality>

KDKA: Wildfire smoke to create unhealthy air quality across Pennsylvania on Thursday

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/pennsylvania-code-red-air-quality-wildfire-smoke/>

Tribune-Democrat: Wildfire smoke has DEP warning of 'Code Red' air pollution levels in Pa.

https://www.tribdem.com/news/local_news/wildfire-smoke-has-dep-warning-of-code-red-air-pollution-levels-in-pa/article_920ba63c-5cdb-4042-bbb8-e500ea3c44f6.html

Standard Speaker: DEP declares statewide Code Red Air Quality Alert for Thursday

<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2026/07/15/dep-declares-statewide-code-red-air-quality-alert-for-thursday/>

Morning Call: Pa. DEP issues statewide red air quality alert as Canada wildfire smoke descends on Lehigh Valley [Updated]

<https://www.mcall.com/2026/07/15/smoke-from-canada-wildfires-could-be-visible-this-week-in-the-lehigh-valley/>

WFMZ: DEP issues Code Red Air Quality Alert statewide for Thursday due to particulate matter levels
https://www.wfmz.com/weather/dep-issues-code-red-air-quality-alert-statewide-for-thursday-due-to-particulate-matter-levels/article_e5e3d562-bd8e-4fdb-b4d3-ea88cd34d68f.html

WBRE: Pennsylvania faces air quality alert from wildfire smoke
<https://www.2822news.com/news/pennsylvania-faces-air-quality-alert-from-wildfire-smoke/>

Lehighvalleylive: Pennsylvania issues Code Red air quality alert for Thursday due to wildfire smoke
<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/weather/2026/07/pennsylvania-issues-code-red-air-quality-alert-for-thursday-due-to-wildfire-smoke.html>

Republican Herald: Smoke looms over Schuylkill County
<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/07/16/smoke-looms-over-schuylkill-county/>

Air

WPXI: Wildfire smoke could cause air quality issues in Pittsburgh region
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/wildfire-smoke-could-cause-air-quality-issues-pittsburgh-region/SF4XEH4EOFDCFOHEYJWSOYQB5U/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Heavy smoke from wildfires blankets Midwest and Northeast, prompting evacuations
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/nation/2026/07/15/wildfires-midwest-northeast-us-dangerous-smoke/stories/202607150057>

Pennlive: Code Red: Pa. sees dangerous air quality from wildfires as temps climb to nearly 100
<https://www.pennlive.com/weather/2026/07/code-red-pa-sees-dangerous-air-quality-from-wildfires-as-temps-climb-to-nearly-100.html>

Lancaster Online: Smoke from wildfires leads to air quality alerts for Lancaster County
https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/smoke-from-wildfires-leads-to-air-quality-alerts-for-lancaster-county/article_d32ab48c-31d2-4b56-85e3-2e4db5c16a3c.html

York Daily Record: Code Red air quality alert in place for York County
<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2026/07/16/wildfire-smoke-leads-to-code-red-air-quality-alert/90939894007/>

Carlisle Sentinel: DEP declares Code Red air quality alert for Thursday
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/article_83b39540-de4e-4fe1-a166-9e068fb9609a.html

Altoona Mirror: Heavy smoke from wildfires blankets parts of US
<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/07/canada-wildfires-minnesota-heavy-smoke-blankets/>

Altoona Mirror: Code Red air quality alert issued
<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/07/code-red-air-quality-alert-issued/>

ABC27: Where is the worst air quality in Central Pennsylvania?

<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/where-is-the-air-quality-worst-in-central-pennsylvania/>

ABC27: Code Red Air Quality alert issued in Pennsylvania amid wildfire smoke

<https://www.abc27.com/weather/severe-weather/code-red-air-quality-alert-issued-in-pennsylvania-amid-wildfire-smoke/>

CBS21: Code Red Air Quality Alert issued for Thursday as wildfire smoke approaches Pennsylvania

<https://local21news.com/news/local/code-red-air-quality-warning-issued-for-thursday-as-wildfire-smoke-approaches-pennsylvania-department-of-environmental-protection-index-health>

FOX43: Weather Impact Alert | Pa. DEP issues statewide Code Red Air Quality Alert Thursday, Code Orange for Friday

<https://www.fox43.com/article/weather/weather-impact/weather-impact-alert-south-central-pas-next-heat-wave-arrives-next-week/521-7565475b-d8b3-4abd-b5f7-95acc3b31767>

WGAL: IMPACT: Code Red air quality alert in effect as Canadian wildfire smoke settles across Pennsylvania

<https://www.wgal.com/article/code-red-air-quality-alert-pennsylvania-canadian-wildfire-smoke/72490033>

WGAL: Canadian wildfire smoke creates hazy skies across Pennsylvania

<https://www.wgal.com/article/canadian-wildfire-smoke-photos-hazy-skies-pennsylvania/72613869>

WTAJ: Pennsylvania residents advised to stay indoors as air quality plunges

<https://www.wtaj.com/news/regional-news/pennsylvania-residents-advised-to-stay-indoors-as-air-quality-plunges/>

WFMZ: DEP issues Code Red Air Quality Alert statewide for Thursday due to particulate matter levels

https://www.wfmz.com/weather/dep-issues-code-red-air-quality-alert-statewide-for-thursday-due-to-particulate-matter-levels/article_e5e3d562-bd8e-4fdb-b4d3-ea88cd34d68f.html

Citizens Voice: How to protect yourself from the bad air caused by wildfires

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2026/07/16/bad-air-quality-wildfires-protection/>

WJET-TV: Smokey Sun for a couple days

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/smokey-sun-for-a-couple-days/>

Conservation and Recreation

Republican Herald: Campers explore wildlife care at Hawk Mountain

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/07/16/campers-explore-wildlife-care-at-hawk-mountain/>

Data Centers

TribLive: East Deer commissioners take initial step toward regulating potential data centers
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/east-deer-commissioners-take-initial-step-toward-regulating-potential-data-centers/>

Mon Valley Independent: 5-Town residents pack zoning meeting over data center concerns
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/07/16/5-town-meeting-packed-over-data-center-concerns/>

Pennlive: Data centers authorized to use backup power to avoid outages during heat wave
<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2026/07/data-centers-authorized-to-use-backup-power-to-avoid-outages-during-heat-wave.html>

Pennlive: Data center developer loses job after insulting texts about local opponents go viral
<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2026/07/data-center-developer-loses-job-after-insulting-texts-about-local-opponents-go-viral.html>

Lancaster Online: New rules erase future data center sites in Lancaster city
https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/new-rules-erase-future-data-center-sites-in-lancaster-city/article_de87deb4-0100-465a-a621-b2ae52f43b30.html

Lancaster Online: Divided Columbia council advances law restricting data centers from zone that covers old airport
https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/divided-columbia-council-advances-law-restricting-data-centers-from-zone-that-covers-old-airport/article_c96497bb-cbae-4b2c-91e3-7370aa7099c2.html

York Daily Record: Remember the \$5B data center planned in Peach Bottom? It could be dead
<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2026/07/13/5-billion-dollar-data-center-peach-bottom-township-on-hold-could-be-dead/90902951007/>

Lewistown Sentinel: Supervisors adopt data center ordinance
<https://www.lewistownsentinel.com/news/local-news/2026/07/supervisors-adopt-data-center-ordinance/>

Bedford Gazette: Bloomfield Twp. approves data center edict
https://www.bedfordgazette.com/news/local/bloomfield-twp-approves-data-center-edict/article_7fc9c097-47b7-4adb-86ee-8bf30d247ae2.html

CBS21: Columbia Borough Council prevents data center development via new zoning ordinance
<https://local21news.com/news/local/columbia-borough-council-prevents-data-center-construction-via-new-zoning-ordinance-lancaster-county-pa-artificial-intelligence-ai-local-government-politics>

Citizens Voice: Dallas Twp. residents pack meeting amid fears of data center development
<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2026/07/15/dallas-twp-residents-pack-meeting-amid-fears-of-data-center-development/>

Times-Tribune: Data centers authorized to use backup power to avoid outages
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/07/15/data-centers-authorized-to-use-backup-power-to-avoid-outages/>

WOLF: Air quality alert issued for Northeastern, Central Pennsylvania; levels unhealthy
<https://fox56.com/news/local/air-quality-alert-issued-for-northeastern-central-pennsylvania-weather-wildfires-pollutants-smoke>

Sharon Herald: Sharon City Council votes on data center resolution, ordinances
https://www.sharonherald.com/news/sharon-city-council-votes-on-data-center-resolution-ordinances/article_a39ac60d-3dbf-4575-ad2b-bfc35870d994.html

Energy

Pennlive: Do EV car batteries last long? When to expect to replace them
<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2026/07/do-ev-car-batteries-last-long-when-to-expect-to-replace-them.html>

Bradford Era: Commissioners replacing draft solar ordinance with broader measure
<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/07/15/commissioners-replacing-draft-solar-ordinance-with-broader-measure/>

Bradford Era: PSATS urges Shapiro to protect local solar decommissioning ordinances
<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/07/15/psats-urges-shapiro-protect-local-solar-decommissioning-ordinances/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

WNEP: EPA administrator visits Luzerne County to witness \$39M groundwater cleanup project launch
<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/luzerne-county/epa-administrator-visits-luzerne-county-witness-39m-groundwater-cleanup-project-launch/523-8be7fdee-0315-4db7-bd8e-16f779143ca5>

WOLF: EPA Administrator Zeldin tours \$39M Superfund Cleanup Site in West Hazleton
<https://fox56.com/news/local/epa-administrator-zeldin-tours-39m-superfund-cleanup-site-in-west-hazleton>

Radiation Protection

ABC27: Pennsylvania legislators pass bill to bolster modular nuclear development
<https://www.abc27.com/pennsylvania/pennsylvania-legislators-pass-bill-to-bolster-modular-nuclear-development/>

Waste

Mon Valley Independent: Glassport still dealing with sewage plant sale rumors
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/07/16/glassport-still-dealing-with-sewage-plant-sale-rumors/>

CBS21: New law to prevent 'noxious' residuals in Pennsylvania farmer fertilizers goes into effect
<https://local21news.com/news/local/new-law-to-prevent-noxious-residuals-in-pennsylvania-farmer-fertilizers-goes-into-effect>

WNEP: Goodwill Industries, Reworld partner for electronic recycling program
<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/lackawanna-county/goodwill-industries-reworld-partner-for-electronic-recycling-program-scranton-lackawanna-county/523-71d0d7d0-443e-4f11-bcb2-0ced1cd3a8fe?tbref=hp>

Water

TribLive: Ligonier Beach Park closed over safety concerns after township supervisors split vote
<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/ligonier-beach-park-closed-over-safety-concerns-after-township-supervisors-split-vote/>

WTAE: South Braddock Avenue on Parkway East detour reopens after water main break
<https://www.wtae.com/article/south-braddock-avenue-parkway-east-detour-closed-water-main-break/72047697>

Tribune-Democrat: Nanty Glo authority secures \$7.2 million for water treatment upgrade
https://www.tribdem.com/news/local_news/nanty-glo-authority-secures-7-2-million-for-water-treatment-upgrade/article_e0f22e72-9ba2-4a5d-92a1-16f3c4b29e64.html

ABC27: Midstate township investigating water outage
<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/lanaster/midstate-township-investigating-water-outage/>

York Daily Record: Shovels could plunge into Codorus Creek greenway project in 2027
<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2026/07/16/construction-could-kick-off-next-year-for-codorus-creek-beautification/90927327007/>

York Daily Record: Codorus Creek greenway project: Scenes through the years
<https://www.ydr.com/picture-gallery/news/local/2026/07/16/take-a-look-back-at-codorus-creek-greenway-project-through-the-years/90862931007/>

Lebtown: Richland Borough Council hears updates on well delay
<https://lebtown.com/2026/07/16/richland-borough-council-hears-updates-on-well-delay/?lts=pzy4aok4y7>

Altoona Mirror: Martinsburg water system gets \$11 million in state funding
<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/07/martinsburg-water-system-gets-11-million-in-state-funding/>

CBS21: West Earl Township confirms water leak causing community outages
<https://local21news.com/news/local/lanaster-county-township-investigating-water-outage-west-earl-township-talmage-pa-pennsylvania>

WGAL: Water main break leaves some residents without water in Lancaster County
<https://www.wgal.com/article/pa-water-outage-talmage-west-earl-township/72526030>

Republican Herald: Kline Twp., Mahanoy City secure funding for water, sewer projects
<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/07/16/kline-twp-mahanoy-city-secure-funding-for-water-sewer-projects/>

The Derrick: Foxburg council paves the way for water system upgrade
https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/foxburg-council-paves-the-way-for-water-system-upgrade/article_667ac85f-5b1f-4003-91ee-cb7f055be8f2.html

The Derrick: Sewer work will go into 2027; engineer says Franklin project runs into unforeseen subsurface conditions
https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/sewer-work-will-go-into-2027-engineer-says-franklin-project-runs-into-unforeseen-subsurface-conditions/article

WJET-TV: Waterford drinking water project awarded \$2.64 million in funding
<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/waterford-drinking-water-project-awarded-2-64-million-in-funding/>

Miscellaneous

TribLive: McCandless sinkhole repair aims for 10-day finish
<https://triblive.com/local/mccandless-sinkhole-repair-aims-for-10-day-finish/>

Allegheny Front: A new book by Pittsburgh author explores the natural wonders of Pennsylvania
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/tory-mathers-book-scenic-natural-wonders-of-pennsylvania/>

WTAE: Parkway East bridge demolished in Pittsburgh
<https://www.wtae.com/article/parkway-east-bridge-demolished-i-376-pittsburgh/72574182>

KDKA: Old Ligonier Beach property closed until further notice
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/old-ligonier-beach-property-closed/>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Alcoa to build, operate critical minerals plant
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/07/15/alcoa-to-build-operate-critical-minerals-plant.html>

Pennlive: What should you do if the heat dome is turning your beautiful green lawn brown?
<https://www.pennlive.com/weather/2026/07/heres-what-to-do-if-your-lawn-is-going-brown-in-this-pa-heat-drought.html>

Waynesboro Record Herald: Fayette Co. Commissioners award landfill contract, hear EMS quarterly update
<https://www.recordherald.com/2026/07/15/fayette-co-commissioners-award-landfill-contract-hear-ems-quarterly-update/>