

*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

Observer-Reporter: Smith Township abandoned mine project receives grant

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2026/mar/16/smith-township-abandoned-mine-project-receives-grant/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: DEP study finds 'no risk to human health' from radiation in wastewater from Pa. landfills

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2026/03/13/landfill-radiation-marcellus-shale-oil-and-gas-pennsylvania/stories/202603130073>

Tribune-Democrat: Bens Creek mine drainage treatment project, Adams Township coal cleanup receive state funds

https://www.tribdem.com/news/local_news/bens-creek-mine-drainage-treatment-project-adams-township-coal-cleanup-receive-state-funds/article_e57f1a59-aab9-4073-8058-c7961a7200ac.html

WPXI: Beaver County residents concerned by smell coming from nearby paint plant

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/beaver-county-residents-concerned-by-smell-coming-nearby-paint-plant/R5METFE52NGNBRRUXSVET44OM/>

The Express: DEP highlights hazardous site clean ups as state funding potentially ends

<https://www.lockhaven.com/news/local-news/2026/03/dep-highlights-hazardous-site-clean-ups-as-state-funding-potentially-ends/>

Morning Call: DEP study finds 'no risk to human health' from radiation in wastewater from Pa. landfills

<https://www.mcall.com/2026/03/16/dep-study-finds-no-risk-to-human-health-from-radiation-in-wastewater-from-pa-landfills/>

Republican Herald: Two abandoned coal mine sites in Schuylkill to be repaired with more than \$8 million in state grants

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/03/13/two-abandoned-coal-mine-sites-in-schuylkill-to-be-repaired-with-more-than-8-million-in-state-grants/>

Pennlive: Federal judge halts operations at York County salvage yard over pollution

<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2026/03/federal-judge-halts-operations-at-york-county-salvage-yard-over-pollution.html?outputType=amp>

Lancaster Online: Susquehanna River watchdog request shut down of York County salvage yard

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/susquehanna-river-watchdog-request-shut-down-of-york-county-salvage-yard/article_23f41a0c-0ec5-45e7-9fcf-63e4532a36ed.html

York Daily Record: 'Enough is enough': Riverkeeper asks federal court to shut J&K Salvage

<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2026/03/13/riverkeeper-asks-federal-court-to-shut-jk-salvage-for-lack-of-a-permit/89144427007/?tbref=hp>

ABC27: Riverkeeper association asks federal judge to shutter salvage yard after fire
<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/riverkeeper-association-asks-federal-judge-to-shutter-salvage-yard-after-fire/>

CBS21: Riverkeepers ask J&K Salvage to 'immediately cease operations' in preliminary injunction
<https://local21news.com/news/local/judge-grants-preliminary-injunction-to-immediately-cess-operations-at-jk-salvage-pollution-codorus-creek-susquehanna-river-oil-runoff-fire-contamination-environment>

WGA: Riverkeeper Association files motion to halt J&K Salvage operations
<https://www.wgal.com/article/riverkeeper-association-files-motion-halt-jk-salvage-operations/70739703>

WFMZ: Landfill runoff not a radiation risk to human health
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/pa-dep-landfill-runoff-not-a-radiation-risk-to-human-health/article_bbd162e9-d701-4cca-b66d-83750294c7a6.html

ICE Facility

Republican Herald: 'It means trouble': Anxiety mounts in Tremont as ICE facility looms
<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/03/14/it-means-trouble-anxiety-mounts-in-tremont-as-ice-facility-looms/>

Climate Change

WESA: Pittsburgh high schoolers hope to make climate impact by plugging old gas wells
<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2026-03-16/pittsburgh-high-schoolers-climate-gas-wells>

Standard Speaker: Strong winds, storms possible Monday
<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2026/03/16/strong-winds-storms-possible-monday/>

Conservation and Recreation

TribLive: Proposed Trolley Line Trail would connect Irwin, North Huntingdon
<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/proposed-trolley-line-trail-would-connect-irwin-north-huntingdon/>

Lancaster Farming: More Public Input to Come on Township Growth Proposals in Lancaster County
https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/news/more-public-input-to-come-on-township-growth-proposals-in-lancaster-county/article_2ba99793-0a43-451a-b86b-d1d1d4044021.html

Huntingdon Daily News: It's whitewater boating time in the Alleghenies

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/its-whitewater-boating-time-in-the-allegheies/article_da4a17f3-2a77-4eac-baa1-97133c6008ae.html

Data Centers

Spotlight: Pennsylvania's data center boom, by the numbers

<https://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2026/03/data-center-boom-numbers-energy-grid-water-environment/>

WOLF: Penn's Northeast seminar in Wilkes-Barre spotlights NEPA's data center future

<https://fox56.com/news/local/penns-northeast-seminar-in-wilkes-barre-spotlights-nepas-data-center-future>

Times Leader: Powering the future: Data centers are planned throughout Northeast Pennsylvania

<https://www.timesleader.com/news/1735427/powering-the-future-data-centers-are-planned-throughout-northeast-pennsylvania>

Daily Local: Pennhurst data center makes last-minute additions to plan

<https://www.dailylocal.com/2026/03/13/pennhurst-data-center-makes-last-minute-additions-to-plan/>

Bradford Era: Shapiro wants to incentivize data centers to be better neighbors. Will that work?

<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/03/14/shapiro-wants-incentivize-data-centers-better-neighbors-will-work/>

Energy

Press Enterprise: Hemlock solar projects get OK

<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/news/2026/03/15/5/hemlock-solar-projects-get-ok>

Erie Times: Where do most of us work and what do we do for a living in Erie?

<https://www.goerie.com/story/business/employment/2026/03/16/erie-pa-employment-statistics/88466070007/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Law 360: 4 Firms Will Pay \$11.5M To Fix Pa. Metals Plant Pollution

https://www.law360.com/articles/2453031?ta_id=1392599&utm_source=targeted-alerts&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=case-article-alert

WHYY: Deal reached to clean up toxic Bishop Tube site in Chester County

<https://whyy.org/articles/bishop-tube-chester-county-pennsylvania-cleanup-settlement/>

Penn Environment: DEP Reaches \$11.4 Million Settlement With Four Companies For Bishop Tube Site Cleanup In Chester County; Public Comments Due May 14

<https://paenvironmentdaily.blogspot.com/2026/03/dep-reaches-114-million-settlement-with.html>

Waste

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Human waste backing up in basements is a gut-churning sign of U.S. infrastructure problems

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/nation/2026/03/15/human-waste-backing-up-basements-sign-infrastructure-problems/stories/202603150025>

WNEP: Throop approves deal with Keystone Sanitary Landfill

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/throop-approves-deal-with-keystone-sanitary-landfill/ar-AA1YAba3?ocid=BingNewsSerp>

WHYY: No new Philly anti-dumping initiatives in Parker's third budget proposal

<https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-budget-anti-dumping/>

Delco Today: Blue Route Trash Is Piling Up, Keeping PennDOT Busy

<https://delco.today/2026/03/blue-route-trash-penn-dot-crew-cleanup/>

Water

Times Observer: Kinzua Dam plans outflows through Tuesday

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2026/03/kinzua-dam-plans-outflows-through-tuesday/>

Carlisle Sentinel: The Bubble in Boiling Springs will be monitored during tavern redevelopment project

https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_338411e5-9010-4a0f-a840-e9a186e0f158.html

Gettysburg Times: East Berlin to sell water and wastewater systems

https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/local/article_96dca118-b850-4882-89d5-0245d3fce0e.html

Altoona Mirror: Contractor sues Altoona Water Authority over Bellwood Dam rehab work

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/03/bellwood-dam-rehab-altoonawaterauthority-contractor-sues/>

Miscellaneous

Daily Times: Why Pennsylvania leads the nation in preserving agricultural farmland

<https://www.timesonline.com/story/news/local/2026/03/16/beaver-somerset-counties-farms-purchased-pennsylvania/89104757007/>

Mon Valley Independent: Valley cleans up from severe wind damage

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/03/16/valley-cleans-up-from-severe-wind-damage/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Fast-moving brush fire challenges firefighters as Pittsburgh region again faces strong winds

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/weather-news/2026/03/15/pittsburgh-weather-wind-advisory/stories/202603150089>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Strong winds and heavy rain are expected around Philly during evening commutes Monday

<https://www.inquirer.com/weather/severe-weather-monday-20260315.html>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Big Tech says the quiet part out loud. They want you to be stupid

<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/alex-karp-palantir-ai-higher-education-20260315.html>

Lancaster Farming: How To Keep Backyard Chickens Safe From Avian Influenza

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/poultry/how-to-keep-backyard-chickens-safe-from-avian-influenza/article_4a301e56-a633-4a0f-a077-2e9944d8fa5f.html

York Daily Record: York City street cleaning returns, parking rules begin

<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2026/03/14/york-city-street-cleaning-to-return-along-with-parking-restrictions/89152260007/?tbref=hp>

Lebtown: Land development plans for Bell & Evans' cold storage, tray pack facilities approved

<https://lebtown.com/2026/03/16/land-development-plans-for-bell-evans-cold-storage-tray-pack-facilities-approved/>

Lebtown: Swatara Township turns to oil and chip treatment as paving costs rise

<https://lebtown.com/2026/03/16/swatara-township-turns-to-oil-and-chip-treatment-as-paving-costs-rise/>

Lancaster Farming: 8 Woodlot Management Mistakes To Avoid

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/conservation/8-woodlot-management-mistakes-to-avoid/article_681b679f-2853-45c7-9569-2f157e955c9f.html

Lancaster Farming: Penn State Study: Biochar Boosts Soil Water Retention

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/conservation/penn-state-study-biochar-boosts-soil-water-retention/article_98fc1409-1f58-45b9-a948-a9b4c64d77c8.html

CBS21: Fire crews battle Mifflin County wildfire

<https://local21news.com/news/local/photos-fire-crews-battle-mifflin-county-wildfire-pa-pennsylvania-blaze-granville-township-junction-peace-drive>