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Top DEP Stories

WPXI: Several local counties receive \$218.8M in grants, loans for water projects
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/43m-loan-awarded-shaler-township-sewage-system-maintenance/OBSZSVM5AZF7RITPFATARCCWPI/?tbref=hp>

Tribune-Review: Morning Roundup: CMU officer injured during Trump motorcade; Code Orange Air Quality Day issued
<https://triblive.com/local/morning-roundup-cmu-officer-injured-during-trump-motorcade-code-orange-air-quality-day-issued/>

WPXI: Monday declared Code Orange Air Quality Action Day for parts of Allegheny County
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/monday-declared-code-orange-air-quality-action-day-parts-allegheny-county/UTNQSG4GVVEEXPM42GXGHUMP3I/>

WPXI: Air Pollution watch issued for Mon Valley, DEP declares code orange air-quality
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/air-pollution-watch-issued-mon-valley-dep-declares-code-orange-air-quality/AJLCY2NKIBA2TBL5AZ2XZ26IYU/>

Record-Argus: DEP seeks feedback on new programs to help lower utility bills, reduce pollution
https://www.recordargusnews.com/community/dep-seeks-feedback-on-new-programs-to-help-lower-utility-bills-reduce-pollution/article_a2662eee-8b08-11ef-b58a-fbb6b22c4146.html

WJET-TV: About \$170K awarded to fund water quality improvements in Waterford Township
<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/about-170k-awarded-to-fund-water-quality-improvements-in-waterford-township/>

Mentions

The Guardian: 'I'm not voting for either': fracking's return stirs fury in Pennsylvania town whose water turned toxic
<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2024/oct/21/fracking-dimock-pennsylvania-trump-kamala-harris>

The Derrick: Drones take to the skies in search of abandoned oil and gas wells in Clarion County
https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/drones-take-to-the-skies-in-search-of-abandoned-oil-and-gas-wells-in-clarion/article_7ac1e80e-8d5d-11ef-85ba-af6706eb0654.html

PA Environment Digest: Reclaimed Abandoned Coal Mine Land In Clinton County Dedicated In Memory Of Joe Schueck, DEP Hydrologist With PA's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program
<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/default.asp?NewsletterArticleID=61610&SubjectID=>

Lancaster Farming: State funds Snyder County upgrades to water, waste systems

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/state-funds-snyder-county-upgrades-to-water-waste-systems/article_392e42ee-07f6-540b-93b7-703536b6f848.html

Morning Ag Clips: New Plans in Works for Cleaner Streams in Lancaster & Centre Counties

<https://www.morningagclips.com/new-plans-in-works-for-cleaner-streams-in-lancaster-centre-counties/>

PA Environment Digest: Evangelical Environmental Network Delivers Over 36,000 Comments From Pro-Life Christians To Gov. Shapiro, DEP In Support Of Strong Oil & Gas Industry Methane Emission Controls

<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/default.asp?NewsletterArticleID=61620&SubjectID=>

PA Environment Digest: Susquehanna River Basin Conditions Trigger Low-Flow Water Use Restrictions At 9 Shale Gas Water Withdrawals In Bradford, Susquehanna, Tioga Counties

<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/default.asp?NewsletterArticleID=61618&SubjectID=>

East Palestine Train Derailment

Pittsburgh Union Progress: Musicians, activists will gather Friday to help people affected by toxic train disaster

<https://www.unionprogress.com/2024/10/21/musicians-activists-will-gather-friday-to-help-people-affected-by-toxic-train-disaster/>

Air

Tribune-Review: Firefighters use foam to snuff out persistent smoke from hay bales in Hempfield

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/firefighters-use-foam-to-snuff-out-persistent-smoke-from-hay-bales-in-hempfield/>

KDKA: Westmoreland County barn fire still smoldering days later

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/westmoreland-county-barn-fire-smoldering/>

Climate Change

The Guardian: New York officials call for big oil to be prosecuted for fueling climate disasters

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2024/oct/17/new-york-big-oil-fueling-climate-disasters>

AP: Helene and Milton are both likely to be \$50 billion disasters, joining ranks of most costly storms

<https://apnews.com/article/helene-milton-hurricanes-climate-development-damage-costly-82c1d5df81c76fa08e035bf7c6db3a37>

Conservation and Recreation

Post-Gazette: Volunteer braves the occasional sting to commune with bees at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden

<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/goodness/2024/10/18/bees-honey-pittsburgh-botanic-garden-beekeeping-coller-fayette/stories/202410140046>

Post-Gazette: Volunteers transform an urban lot into a pollinator garden in Swissvale

<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/goodness/2024/10/18/swissvale-pollinator-garden-humane-action-pittsburgh/stories/202410180003>

AP: Pressure grows for countries to deliver on promised biodiversity targets at UN conference

<https://apnews.com/article/biodiversity-conference-united-nations-climate-cop16-colombia-31f5daa588d04881faef639d99cc2f62>

Allegheny Front: Pittsburgh urban farmers get a nearly \$900K boost from USDA

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pittsburgh-urban-farmers-usda-federal-funds/>

Post-Gazette: Pittsburgh is one of 10 cities chosen for USDA urban farming grants

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/city/2024/10/18/pittsburgh-usda-urban-farming-grant/stories/202410160087>

Allegheny Front: Color-correcting viewfinders installed at 9 Pa. state parks for colorblind visitors

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvania-color-correcting-viewfinders-state-parks-colorblind/>

Next Pittsburgh: Chatham University and Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy partner to enhance Shadyside campus arboretum

<https://nextpittsburgh.com/environment/chatham-university-and-pittsburgh-parks-conservancy-partner-to-enhance-shadyside-campus-arboretum/>

Observer-Reporter: 'Milestone moment': Montour Trail closes last gap

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/community/2024/oct/19/milestone-moment-montour-trail-closes-last-gap/>

Tribune-Review: Sustainability focus of spruced-up courtyard at middle school in Lower Burrell

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/sustainability-focus-of-spruced-up-courtyard-at-middle-school-in-lower-burrell/>

Tribune-Review: Sand blasting saves historic Tredway Trail landmark from graffiti; charges filed

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/sand-blasting-saves-historic-tredway-trail-landmark-from-graffiti-charges-filed/>

Times Observer: Collaboration plants field for pollinators

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2024/10/collaboration-plants-field-for-pollinators/>

Times Observer: US Forest Service Fish Habitat Improvement Project On Allegheny Reservoir

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2024/10/fish-habitat-improvement-sought/>

Daily Local: Judge rules against Upper Pottsgrove open space grab; Building a municipal complex on Smola Farm would violate Open Space Act, ruling says

<https://www.dailylocal.com/2024/10/19/judge-rules-against-upper-pottsgrove-open-space-grab/>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Longwood Gardens, famous for its plants and classical fountains, adds modern architecture to the mix

<https://www.inquirer.com/real-estate/commercial/longwood-gardens-reimagined-expansion-construction-20241019.html>

My ChesCo: Giant Bears Await: Pennsylvania's Thrilling Hunt Promises Monumental Harvests This Season!

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69 News: 'Crazy number of mums' in bloom at Schwenksville business

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/southeastern-pa/crazy-number-of-mums-in-bloom-at-schwenksville-business/article_ca405ab2-8d9b-11ef-9e35-0f559a1a2767.html

69 News: Whitewater release into Tohickon Creek canceled due to low water levels in Lake Nockamixon

[Whitewater release into Tohickon Creek canceled due to low water levels in Lake Nockamixon | Upper-bucks-county | wfmz.com](https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/southeastern-pa/whitewater-release-into-tohickon-creek-canceled-due-to-low-water-levels-in-lake-nockamixon-upper-bucks-county-wfmz-com)

Lancaster Farming: Pennsylvania Celebrates \$3.4 Million in Conservation Funding

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Lancaster Online: If you canoe on the Susquehanna River in winter, you'd better be careful

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Lewistown Sentinel: Phase two of Juniata River Trail completed

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Huntingdon Daily News: Hiker suggests trail walking for students

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/hiker-suggests-trail-walking-for-students/article_1d6ed090-8bbe-11ef-a09c-8f4494a2c819.html

Centre Daily Times: Opening of Whitehall Road Regional Park delayed again due to outside 'mistakes'

https://www.centredaily.com/news/local/community/article293999244.html#campaignName=statecollege_morning_newsletter

Centre Daily Times: Afield: Fall is the most popular time to visit PA's Kinzua Skywalk. It will soon close for repairs

https://www.centredaily.com/news/state/pennsylvania/article294162649.html#campaignName=statecollege_morning_newsletter

PA Environment Digest: DCNR, Fish & Boat Commission, Partners Plant Stream Buffer In Snyder County To Combat Flooding, Improve Water Quality

<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/default.asp?NewsletterArticleID=61635&SubjectID=>

Drought

69 News: Parts of our area in 'moderate drought,' report says

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/pennsylvania/parts-of-our-area-in-moderate-drought-report-says/article_b3be3458-8cc4-11ef-8bc5-07fcd096340e.html

Altoona Mirror: Pumped up: Dry growing season spurs pumpkin farmers to rely on irrigation

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2024/10/pumped-up-dry-growing-season-spurs-pumpkin-farmers-to-rely-on-irrigation/>

Energy

The Almanac: Peters Township council takes action to curb 'electric motorcycle' use

<https://www.thealmanac.net/news/2024/oct/16/peters-township-council-takes-action-to-curb-electric-motorcycle-use-2/>

Daily Courier: Fayette fields solar panel questions

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Observer-Reporter: Fayette County Zoning Board nixes request for Georges Township solar farm

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2024/oct/18/fayette-county-zoning-board-nixes-request-for-georges-township-solar-farm/>

KDKA: Proposed Fayette County solar farm legislation divides residents

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/proposed-fayette-county-solar-farm-legislation/>

Allegheny Front: Biden-era solar program for lower-income homeowners could be 'in jeopardy' under a Trump administration

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/solar-low-income-households-tax-credits/>

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https://www.heraldstandard.com/editors_pick/2024/oct/18/fayette-commissioners-hold-a-public-hearing-on-solar-farm-ordinance/

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Times News: Schuylkill to consider solar amendment
<https://www.tnonline.com/20241019/schuylkill-to-consider-solar-amendment/>

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WICU-TV: Erie County Solar Co-Op Hosts Tour
<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/51642182/erie-county-solar-coop-hosts-tours>

DV Journal: Energy Experts Warn of Potential Disaster as SCOTUS Allows EPA Carbon Rules to Continue
<https://delawarevalleyjournal.com/energy-experts-warn-of-potential-disaster-as-scotus-allows-epa-carbon-rules-to-continue/>

Lancaster Online: Trump presidency and Project 2025 could imperil Lancaster County's gains in clean energy
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<https://www.cpbj.com/usda-partnering-with-small-businesses-to-create-jobs-lower-energy-costs/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Delaware Currents: Upper Delaware River hazmat drill reveals shortcomings in responses
<https://delawarecurrents.org/2024/10/21/upper-delaware-hazmat/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Williamsport ballpark project moving forward
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2024/10/williamsport-ballpark-project-moving-forward/>

Mining

Allegheny Front: Pa. didn't plan for the end of coal. This community is trying to find a way forward.
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Allegheny Front: Coal community groups ask Harris and Trump for continued funding
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvania-coal-communities-inflation-reduction-act-investments/>

Post-Gazette: A partial victory for some Consol retirees, but an uncertain path for others who lost health care coverage
<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2024/10/21/consol-murray-coal-retirement-unions/stories/202410200066>

Oil and Gas

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Tribune-Review: Vance laments high prices, promotes drilling in Pittsburgh visit

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PA Environment Digest: Saint Vincent College Study Finds Counties With Shale Gas Fracking Wells Using Chemicals That Target Certain Hormones Have Greater Incidence Of Pre-Term Births, Low Birth Weights

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Waste

WESA: Proposed Pittsburgh 'Quality of Life' bill would increase garbage enforcement

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Water

Tribune-Review: MAWC recovers over \$826K in stolen funds, upgrades cybersecurity efforts

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Tribune-Review: Plum mobile home park owner continuing fight to expand facility in a flood zone

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/plum-mobile-home-park-owner-continuing-fight-to-expand-facility-in-a-flood-zone/>

Tribune-Review: Garbage hauling will cost West Deer residents 34% more next year

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/garbage-hauling-will-cost-west-deer-residents-34-more-next-year/>

Tribune-Review: Alle-Kiski towns to upgrade water, sewer facilities thanks to state funding
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<https://www.lehighvalleynews.com/environment-science/a-wonderful-example-of-the-power-of-partnerships-officials-celebrate-bushkill-creek-dam-removals>

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WICU-TV: Western PA Conservancy Awarded \$169,000 Grant To Improve Trout Run Watershed In Erie County

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Lancaster Online: \$20M PennVEST-financed project would include replacing aging water pipes in West Donegal

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Miscellaneous

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The Allegheny Front: The Allegheny Front receives national grant for filling critical gap in local news

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/allegheny-front-press-forward-national-grant/>

Allegheny Front: New book looks at winners and losers in Pennsylvania environmental history

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvania-conservation-environmental-history-allen-dieterich-ward/>

Allegheny Front: Pennsylvania to receive \$43 million in federal funds to remove lead paint from homes

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Pittsburgh Union Progress: East Busway could reopen Friday after placement of concrete barriers to protect from landslides

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Pittsburgh Union Progress: Penn Hills expects to fix slide under Old William Penn Highway next year

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