

*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

NorthcentralPA.com: Task force declares Drought Watch in 25 PA counties

https://www.northcentralpa.com/news/task-force-declares-drought-watch-in-25-pa-counties/article_2fba61a1-4e61-40cb-bf43-ee243d998cba.html

DuBois Courier-Express: Drought declaration issued for Clarion, 24 other counties

https://www.thecourierexpress.com/the_leader_vindicator/news/local/drought-declaration-issued-for-clarion-24-other-counties/article_0a0a6f7a-511d-4dea-8914-ac48d84173df.html

The Abandoned Mine Reclamation Chronicles Podcast (EPCAMR): Live Interview with Jessica Shirley, PA DEP Secretary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vD-UuKt1yQE>

Mentions

Scranton Times: Shapiro unveils \$39M in funding, \$6M for Archbald, Mayfield warehouses

https://enewspaper.thetimes-tribune.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=4a2b7ce5-ae90-43fa-b33d-57561d8b7875&share=true

Air

The Allegheny Front: EPA reverses course on rule that will force U.S. Steel to monitor for cancer-causing emissions

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/epa-reverses-course-on-rule-that-will-force-u-s-steel-to-monitor-for-cancer-causing-emissions/>

Climate Change

Morning Call: Freeze warning issued for part of Lehigh Valley as autumn weather sets in

<https://www.mcall.com/2025/10/09/allentown-weather-freeze-warning-frost-advisory-cold-weather/>

My Chesco.com: Pennsylvania House Passes Pielli Bill to Protect Pollinators and Native Insects

<https://www.mychesco.com/a/news/government/pennsylvania-house-passes-pielli-bill-to-protect-pollinators-and-native-insects/>

Penn State News: Penn State selected to lead Pennsylvania's climate network

<https://www.psu.edu/news/impact/story/penn-state-selected-lead-pennsylvanias-climate-network>

Conservation and Recreation

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: 'Glamping' is coming to Pennsylvania state parks in 2026

<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/outdoors/2025/10/09/glamping-pennsylvania-state-parks/stories/202510090072>

Times Observer: Dems pass pollinator, insect protection bill

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2025/10/dems-pass-pollinator-insect-protection-bill/>

LehighValleyLive: Why birds seem to disappear from backyard feeders this time of year

<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/outdoors/2025/10/why-birds-seem-to-disappear-from-backyard-feeders-this-time-of-year-lehigh-valley-nature-watch.html>

WNEP: Poconos tourism hits record \$7.2B spend, supporting more than 38,000 jobs

<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/monroe-county/poconos-tourism-record-72b-spend-supporting-38000-jobs-monroe-carbon-wayne-pike/523-5f23803d-4aa3-46e4-87cb-e3412edc1b66?tbref=hp>

Republican Herald: Nature is therapy, speaker tells Schuylkill Conservancy

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2025/10/08/nature-is-therapy-speaker-tells-schuylkill-conservancy/>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: 10 spots to hike in and around Media | Inquirer Greater Media

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/media-wallingford-swarthmore-hiking-trails-nature-walks-task-accent-20251009.html>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Latest Floating Classroom aboard Hiawatha was a success

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2025/10/latest-floating-classroom-aboard-hiawatha-was-a-success/>

Data Centers

The Beaver County Times: State officials grappling with how to regulate data centers so residents don't bear cost

<https://www.timesonline.com/story/news/local/2025/10/09/data-centers-fueled-by-demand-for-artificial-intelligence-beaver-county-pa/86581363007/>

KDKA: Springdale delays decision on high-tech AI data center

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/springdale-ai-data-center-decision-delayed/>

Central Penn Business Journal: Pennsylvania unveils 10-year AI and energy roadmap

<https://www.cpbj.com/pennsylvania-ai-energy-roadmap-innovation-corridors/>

Citizens Voice: Developer challenges Dorrance Twp. zoning ordinance, arguing it unlawfully excluded data centers

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2025/10/08/developer-challenges-dorrance-twp-zoning-ordinance-arguing-it-unlawfully-excluded-data-centers/>

Drought

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: DCNR urges caution to prevent wildfires amid current dry conditions

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2025/10/dcnr-urges-caution-to-prevent-wildfires-amid-current-dry-conditions/>

Energy

Pennlive: Pennsylvania's energy renaissance isn't about politics - it's about people

<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2025/10/pennsylvanias-energy-renaissance-isnt-about-politics-its-about-people-opinion.html>

Mining

Sharon Herald: Offer of lease for quarry divides a generations-deep farm family

https://www.sharonherald.com/news/offer-of-lease-for-quarry-divides-a-generations-deep-farm-family/article_f139ce0d-6fb2-4a13-9c8e-dc1d6c88671d.html

WBRE: Governor Shapiro announces \$6M investment in Lackawanna County

<https://www.2822news.com/top-news/governor-shapiro-announces-6m-investment-in-lackawanna-county/>

WOLF: Governor Shapiro unveils \$6M Mayfield logistics hub, part of \$39M statewide initiative

<https://fox56.com/news/local/governor-shapiro-unveils-6m-mayfield-logistics-hub-part-of-39m-statewide-initiative>

Waste

Pennlive: Robots are coming for your trash; AI is doing recycling's dirty work

<https://www.pennlive.com/business/2025/10/robots-are-coming-for-your-trash-ai-is-doing-recyclings-dirty-work.html>

York Daily Record: AI robots are now sorting your recyclables at Penn Waste's facility

<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/local/2025/10/09/ai-robots-are-sorting-your-recyclables-at-penn-wastes-facility/86589405007/>

NBC10: New voucher program offers incentive to stop illegal dumping in Philadelphia

<https://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/illegal-trash-dumping-voucher-program-philadelphia/4282202/>

WHYY: North Philadelphia nonprofit offers vouchers to help would-be dumpers dispose of waste legally

<https://whyy.org/articles/north10-philadelphia-waste-disposal-illegal-dumping/>

WHYY: Can Phoenixville's sewage become 'guilt-free coal'?

<https://whyy.org/articles/phoenixville-wastewater-treatment-process-sewage/>

Water

Latrobe Bulletin: LTMA officials, Fairfield Township residents await board vote on water extension

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/ltma-officials-fairfield-township-residents-await-board-vote-on-water-extension/article_4f105e43-9955-49ba-9445-d09258658a36.html

The Allegheny Front: Gov. Shapiro elected to lead U.S.-Canadian partnership overseeing Great Lakes

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/gov-shapiro-u-s-canadian-partnership-great-lakes/>

Tribune-Review: Mayor defends New Kensington water authority board appointment

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/mayor-defends-new-kensington-water-authority-board-appointment/>

Lancaster Online: East Petersburg's ban on nonessential water use may last until the end of October

https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/east-petersburgs-ban-on-nonessential-water-use-may-last-until-the-end-of-october/article_9613aac4-315c-45f5-98f7-b0105b374c8f.html

Sharon Herald: A dip in the water: Thiel to hear water quality talk

https://www.sharonherald.com/news/a-dip-in-the-water-thiel-to-hear-water-quality-talk/article_d37f2923-a611-47d5-9728-b4c8f6f1c770.html

Pottstown Mercury: Blue Marsh Lake algae caused Pottstown's pink water

<https://www.pottsmmerc.com/2025/10/09/blue-marsh-lake-algae-caused-pottstowns-pink-water/>

Miscellaneous

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Lithium-ion batteries spark growing fire concern

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/health/2025/10/08/lithium-ion-batteries-fire/stories/202510080066>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Ohio-based freight company plans new facility in Westmoreland County, to add 50 jobs

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2025/10/08/dayton-freight-wcidc-i-70-park.html>

Tribune-Review: Dayton Freight shipping company to build depot off I-70 near Smithton

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/dayton-freight-shipping-company-to-build-depot-off-route-70-near-smithton/>

Tribune-Review: Repair work begins on South Buffalo bridge after monthslong closure

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/repair-work-begins-on-south-buffalo-bridge-after-monthslong-closure/>

Lancaster Farming: Conservation Leaders Ask Lawmakers to Protect Funding During Pennsylvania Farm Tour

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/conservation/conservation-leaders-ask-lawmakers-to-protect-funding-during-pennsylvania-farm-tour/article_71874182-fa95-4a8e-8d2b-042b314d981f.html

Bedford Gazette: Borough discusses Elk Street, solar panels

https://www.bedfordgazette.com/townnews/civil_law/borough-discusses-elk-street-solar-panels/article_9366c6b0-393a-4bf4-8b78-0d2776f78809.html

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Science is under siege. How Penn's top climate scientist is fighting back

<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/science-under-siege-michael-mann-penn-20251009.html>

Philly Burbs: PennDOT to host public meeting for last leg of Route 1 project. Here are the details

<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/local/2025/10/09/penndot-update-route-1-project-bucks-county-pa-public-meeting-online-oct-22/86583530007/>