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Top DEP Stories

Johnstown Tribune-Democrat: Federal, state officials herald millions of dollars for rural electric distribution companies https://www.tribdem.com/news/federal-state-officials-herald-millions-of-dollars-for-rural-electric-distribution-companies/article_7ebe9fb9-46a4-4568-914f-5694af352421.html

WJAC-TV: Feds, REA Energy tout \$1.5M investment aimed to improve power outage response <https://wjactv.com/news/local/feds-rea-energy-tout-15m-grant-aimed-to-improve-power-outage-response?teaserSource=trending>

WTAJ-TV: From hours to seconds: Federal grant aims to cut storm power outages across Central PA <https://www.wtaj.com/news/regional-news/from-hours-to-seconds-federal-grant-aims-to-cut-storm-power-outages-across-central-pa/amp/>

WICU-TV: From Industrial Site to Indoor Farm: Grow Erie Combines Fresh Produce With Workforce Opportunities https://www.erienewsnow.com/news/from-industrial-site-to-indoor-farm-grow-erie-combines-fresh-produce-with-workforce-opportunities/article_1c7f2150-7784-487a-bc0e-65d967786495.html

WJET-TV: Local leaders join DEP secretary for Grow Erie tour <https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/local-leaders-join-dep-secretary-for-grow-erie-tour/>

Mentions

DELCO Times: Heating oil spill displaces residents in Darby <https://www.delcotimes.com/2026/10/20/heating-oil-spill-displaces-residents-in-darby/>

Climate Change

Pennlive: UN: World warming projections worsen as US boosts carbon emissions <https://www.pennlive.com/nation-world/2026/10/un-world-warming-projections-worsen-as-us-boosts-carbon-emissions.html>

Lancaster Farming: ;Climate Change Spurs Interest in New Crops at Philly Suburb Farm https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/produce/climate-change-spurs-interest-in-new-crops-at-philly-suburb-farm/article_df52e877-7311-4bee-b18e-d630bffe81f2.html

Conservation and Recreation

Scranton Times: Fish kill at local lake buries state Fish and Boat Commission in criticism

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/10/20/fish-kill-at-lackawanna-county-lake-buries-pfbc-in-criticism/>

Times News: Majestic sighting

<https://www.tnonline.com/20261020/majestic-sighting/>

Gettysburg Times: Watershed Alliance honored for decades of conservation work

https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/basket/watershed-alliance-honored-for-decades-of-conservation-work/article_ce67b62b-bdfc-4ac9-af0b-3713a0350eb7.html

Data Centers

Morning Call: They're on Notice: Bethel Board gives supervisors 60 days to take action on data center regulation

<https://www.mcall.com/2026/10/20/theyre-on-notice-upper-mount-bethel-board-gives-supervisors-60-days-to-take-action-on-data-center-regulation/>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Residents give notice of intent to sue East Whiteland and developer over 1.5 million square foot data center project

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/east-whiteland-data-center-20261020.html>

Bucks County Beacon: With a Trifecta in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Democrats Would Pass Energy Reforms and Rein in Data Centers

<https://buckscountybeacon.com/2026/10/with-a-trifecta-in-harrisburg-pennsylvania-democrats-would-pass-energy-reforms-and-rein-in-data-centers/>

The Times Herald: Data center applications withdrawn ahead of Upper Merion zoning meeting

<https://www.timesherald.com/2026/10/20/data-center-applications-withdrawn-ahead-of-upper-merion-zoning-meeting/>

Pennlive Pa. township solicitor to earn big payout in Amazon data center deal

<https://www.pennlive.com/politics/2026/10/pa-township-solicitor-to-earn-big-payout-in-amazon-data-center-deal.html>

Lancaster Online: Caernarvon Twp. halts data center development to review zoning

https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/caernarvon-twp-halts-data-center-development-to-review-zoning/article_c885c809-753a-4f94-a7ab-8fae077da359.html

Altoona Mirror: Data center utility claim spurs pushback in House

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/10/data-center-utility-claim-spurs-pushback-in-house/>

Huntingdon Daily News: Data center concerns dominate meeting

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/data-center-concerns-dominate-meeting/article_92c7dd52-aca5-48a3-b3b0-7ac7fc098af2.html

Bedford Gazette: Local leaders hear about skill games, data centers

https://www.bedfordgazette.com/news/local/local-leaders-hear-about-skill-games-data-centers/article_25f15419-2a46-4a73-a2e5-37abd9befde0.html

WTAJ: Somerset County passes strict ordinance on data center regulations

<https://www.wtaj.com/news/local-news/somerset-county-passes-strict-ordinance-on-data-center-regulations/>

Energy

WFMZ: Higher bills, greater risk of shutoff: Pa.'s largest electric company seeks new protections for customers who shop for suppliers

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/pennsylvania/higher-bills-greater-risk-of-shutoff-pa-s-largest-electric-company-seeks-new-protections-for/article_fe07d084-7883-437e-bd5d-da24a70544b3.html

Lancaster Online: Heating costs for electricity, natural gas customers expected to drop this winter in Lancaster County

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/heating-costs-for-electricity-natural-gas-customers-expected-to-drop-this-winter-in-lancaster-county/article_d8685172-947b-49f4-8161-9e66734d545f.html

WITF: Higher bills, greater risk of shutoff: Pa.'s largest electric company seeks new protections for customers who shop for suppliers

<https://www.witf.org/2026/10/21/higher-bills-greater-risk-of-shutoff-pa-s-largest-electric-company-seeks-new-protections-for-customers-who-shop-for-suppliers/>

Mining

Standard Speaker: Hazle Twp. planners say no to rezoning for PNK warehouses

<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2026/10/20/hazle-twp-planners-say-no-to-rezoning-for-pnk-warehouses/>

Oil and Gas

Butler Eagle: Penn Township residents concerned about proposed natural gas compressor

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20261020/penn-township-residents-concerned-about-proposed-natural-gas-compressor/>

Water

Butler Eagle: Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition takes on mine pollution in creek tributaries for more than 30 years

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20261020/slippy-rock-watershed-coalition-takes-on-mine-pollution-in-creek-tributaries-for-more-than-30-year/>

Scranton Times: Visitors to drained lake at Lackawanna State Park warned about mud
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/10/20/visitors-to-drained-lake-at-lackawanna-state-park-warned-about-mud/>

Lancaster Online: West Lampeter Township hires engineer to design stormwater plan to protect waterways
https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/west-lampeter-township-hires-engineer-to-design-stormwater-plan-to-protect-waterways/article_66a31e04-1a30-44ec-9002-8f00b9b01bc9.html

Carlisle Sentinel: Carlisle transforms dry Orange Street stormwater basin into wet pond
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_480bb699-4a8f-49de-a938-67836df7a95d.html

Gettysburg Times: Conewago Twp. disputes stormwater fees
https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/local/conewago-twp-disputes-stormwater-fees/article_6582e447-f9e4-4928-a1e0-3f19caad6871.html

WFMZ: Wyomissing Borough receives \$250,000 state grant to improve public access at Parklands Creek
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/reading-area/wyomissing-borough-receives-250-000-state-grant-to-improve-public-access-at-parklands-creek/article_f0845df9-ef4b-4512-8a78-0f40197c09cd.html

Miscellaneous

Altoona Mirror: Earth movers: Wild Ones restoring natural species to floodplain, creating community food forest
<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/10/altoona-wildones-browningave-floodplain-foodforestproject-creating-for-community/>

WHYY: Autumn is here, and leaves are falling. What should Philadelphia residents do with them?
<https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-leaves-removal-residents-composting/>