

Some clips may be behind a paywall. If you need access to these clips, email me at trisfergus@pa.gov

Top DEP Stories

Bradford Era: DEP declares statewide Code Orange Air Quality Action Day today
https://www.bradfordera.com/news/dep-declares-statewide-code-orange-air-quality-action-day-today/article_0aebb262-2409-11ee-991d-6f89126ee417.html

Times News: Air quality alert from wildfire smoke continues today
<https://www.tnonline.com/20230718/air-quality-alert-wildfire-smoke-continues-tuesday/>

Post-Gazette: Western Pa. air quality looks to improve Tuesday while the eastern part of the state remains in Code Orange
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/health/2023/07/17/air-quality-canadian-wildfires-western-pennsylvania/stories/202307170085>

Lancaster Newspapers: Code Orange air quality alert for Lancaster County extended through Tuesday afternoon
https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/code-orange-air-quality-alert-for-lancaster-county-extended-through-tuesday-afternoon/article_2093f318-24cc-11ee-96a0-b7df1e03ba13.html

Pennlive: Air quality alert issued again for much of Pa. through Tuesday
<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2023/07/air-quality-alert-issued-again-for-central-pa-through-tuesday.html>

Centre Daily Times: Pennsylvania is again under an air quality alert. When will Centre County see relief?
<https://www.centredaily.com/news/local/community/article277392768.html>

Fox56: DEP Declares Code Orange Air Quality Action Day for Fine Particulate Matter for July 18, 2023, in Multiple Areas of Pennsylvania
<https://fox56.com/news/local/dep-declares-code-orange-air-quality-action-day-for-fine-particulate-matter-for-july-18-2023-in-multiple-areas-of-pennsylvania>

Whitemarsh Train Derailment

Philadelphia Inquirer: Whitemarsh train derailment spilled plastic pellets but no toxic chemicals. No injuries were reported.
<https://www.inquirer.com/transportation/freight-derailed-csx-norfolk-southern-whitemarsh-montco-tetrachloroethylene-20230717.html>

6ABC News: Officials reveal what was in freight train cars that derailed in Whitemarsh Twp.
<https://6abc.com/freight-train-derailment-whitemarsh-township-montgomery-county-pa/13513612/>

CBS News: PA train derailment today: Precautionary evacuation order lifted in Whitemarsh Township
<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/whitemarsh-township-montgomery-county-train-derailment-joshua-road/>

NBC 10: At least 15 freight train cars derail in Montgomery County. Hazmat crews give all clear
<https://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/freight-train-derailment-montgomery-county/>

WHYY: Sinkhole may be to blame for freight train derailment in Whitemarsh Twp.
<https://whyy.org/articles/whitemarsh-township-freight-train-derailment-montgomery-county/>

Philly Trib: Freight train derails in southeast Pennsylvania, but no known injuries or hazards
https://www.phillytrib.com/news/state_and_region/freight-train-derails-in-southeast-pennsylvania-but-no-known-injuries-or-hazards/article_e8e090d5-7701-52c2-be4e-25a58677aa36.html

PHL 17: Freight Train Derails in Whitemarsh Township; No Hazards Reported
<https://phl17.com/phl17-news/freight-train-derails-in-whitemarsh-township-no-injuries-reported/>

East Palestine Derailment

WTAE: University of Kentucky conducts health study on East Palestine residents in connection with train derailment
<https://www.wtae.com/article/east-palestine-train-derailment-university-of-kentucky-health-study/44568471>

Mentions

StateImpact PA: Pa. House brings severance tax idea back around, raising an old debate in the nation's 2nd-largest gas producer
<https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2023/07/17/advocates-say-a-new-study-on-severance-taxes-could-reset-an-old-debate-in-the-nations-2nd-largest-gas-producer/>

Sunbury Daily Item: DEP kicks back Encina permit due to deficiencies
https://www.dailyitem.com/news/dep-kicks-back-encina-permit-application-due-to-deficiencies/article_bfe39a98-219f-11ee-a2fe-1757fd4ced24.html

Air

Butler Eagle: Air quality to improve throughout the week in Butler
<https://www.butlereagle.com/20230717/air-quality-to-improve-throughout-the-week-in-butler/>

New Castle News: Unhealthy air quality lingers across parts of U.S. from drifting Canadian wildfire smoke
https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/local_news/unhealthy-air-quality-lingers-across-parts-of-u-s-from-drifting-canadian-wildfire-smoke/article_2d314521-1214-5fa7-98f9-9738c574a52a.html

WICU-TV: Poor Air Quality Impacts on Outdoor Activities
<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/49206038/poor-air-quality-impacts-on-outdoor-activities>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Pennsylvania under another air quality warning, again thanks to wildfire smoke
<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/philadelphia-air-quality-index-aqi-weather-forecast-20230718.html>

6ABC: Air quality alerts in effect due to more smoke from Canadian wildfires

<https://6abc.com/canada-wildfire-air-quality-alert-philadelphia-smoke-aqi-near-me/13515758/>

PHL 17: Code Orange Air Quality Alert in effect for Pennsylvania

<https://phl17.com/phl17-news/code-orange-air-quality-alert-in-effect-for-pennsylvania/>

KDKA: Pittsburgh Weather: Spot showers, cooler temperatures, poor Mon Valley air quality

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/pittsburgh-weather-spot-showers-cooler-temperatures-poor-mon-valley-air-quality/>

Tribune-Review: Wildfire smoke again returns to Western Pa.

<https://triblive.com/local/regional/wildfire-smoke-again-returns-to-western-pa/>

Penn State News: Wildfire smoke: Campus communities should monitor conditions, follow guidelines

<https://www.psu.edu/news/campus-life/story/wildfire-smoke-campus-communities-should-monitor-conditions-follow-guidelines/>

Centre Daily Times: Smoke lingering in PA keeping you indoors? Take these steps to reduce possible pollution

https://www.centredaily.com/news/weather-news/article277387183.html?ac_cid=DM823429&ac_bid=-837805193

Climate Change

AP: House Republicans propose planting a trillion trees as they move away from climate change denial

<https://apnews.com/article/climate-change-republicans-trillion-trees-01e455acce4397c0376e82bfa18b72c2>

Conservation and Recreation

Philadelphia Inquirer: My summer job: A South Philly educator goes to the forest, taking hikes with tikes at Camp Schuylkill

<https://www.inquirer.com/jobs/labor/schuylkill-center-camp-counselor-summer-job-environmental-education-20230718.html>

Philadelphia Business Journal: Expanded \$100M restoration of Cobbs Creek Golf Course gets underway

https://www.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/news/2023/07/17/cobbs-creek-golf-course-100-million-restoration.html?cx_testId=40&cx_testVariant=cx_8&cx_artPos=3#cxrecs_s

Philly Voice: Restoration work begins at Cobbs Creek Golf Club in West Philly

<https://www.phillyvoice.com/cobbs-creek-golf-course-restoration-construction-tiger-woods/>

KYW News: Groundbreaking at Cobbs Creek set to drive historic golf course to former glory

<https://www.audacy.com/kywnewsradio/news/local/groundbreaking-cobbs-creek-golf-course-usd65-million-renovation>

WJAC: 'Knot' a weed problem to ignore: Cambria County battles invasive plant menace
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/knot-weed-invasion-in-cambria-county-sparks-concern-among-residents#>

PublicSource: How you can get involved in science from your own Pennsylvania backyard
<https://www.publicsource.org/backyard-citizen-science-firefly-bird-watching-turkeys-toads-frogs/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Preservation and stewardship: an educational perspective
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2023/07/preservation-and-stewardship-an-educational-perspective/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Philadelphia Inquirer: After Whitemarsh train crash, it's imperative officials look at the bigger picture, says Drexel environmental expert
<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/whitemarsh-train-crash-cleanup-tetrachloroethylene-plastic-pellets-urea-20230717.html>

Shamokin News-Item: North 6th Street property to be demolished following cave-in
https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/north-6th-street-property-to-be-demolished-following-cave-in/article_8191072a-3199-5e7b-a5bd-70fa077a3621.html

Oil and Gas

Sunbury Daily Item: Top US firms supplied equipment to keep Russian oil flowing after Ukraine invasion
https://www.dailyitem.com/news/top-us-firms-supplied-equipment-to-keep-russian-oil-flowing-after-ukraine-invasion/article_61d57ae8-79f3-5637-8bed-f4148a957f90.html

PFAS

Philadelphia Inquirer: THE BURNING QUESTION Firefighters' protective gear may actually be harming them. Why are departments still using it?
<https://www.inquirer.com/news/inq2/firefighter-turnout-bunker-gear-causing-cancer-pfas-chemicals-20230718.html>

Waste

Standard Speaker: HCA pilot program targets, loose, trash on sidewalks
https://www.standardpeaker.com/news/hca-pilot-program-targets-loose-trash-on-sidewalks-gutters/article_8c84cf0e-9cfe-5225-8efe-b91964ce4441.html

WHYY: No more plastic utensils at the King of Prussia Mall: Upper Merion bans single-use plastic
<https://whyy.org/articles/upper-merion-bans-single-use-plastic/>

WJAC: Millions join the 'Plastic Free July' movement: 2.6 tons of plastic waste reduced nationwide in 2022
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/millions-join-the-plastic-free-july-movement-26-tons-of-plastic-waste-reduced-nationwide-in-2022>

Water

Erie Times: Presque Isle State Park lifts swim bans at Beaches 3 and 8, continues ban at Beach 6
<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/local/2023/07/17/presque-isle-state-park-erie-pa-lifts-swim-bans-beaches-3-8-e-coli-bacteria/70419564007/>

Butler Eagle: Pennsylvania American Water planning water line replacement projects
<https://www.butlereagle.com/20230718/pennsylvania-american-water-planning-water-line-replacement-projects/>

Times Observer: Survey underway on Lake Erie fisheries
<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/community/2023/07/survey-underway-on-lake-erie-fisheries/>

Philly Burbs: Are roads closed because of the Delaware River flooding in Bucks County? Here's the latest
<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/2023/07/16/fatal-flooding-in-bucks-county-leads-to-the-closure-of-several-roads/>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Five victims of the Bucks County flooding are identified, as the search for 2 children goes on
<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/bucks-county-flooding-missing-children-victims-climate-change-20230717.html>

Philadelphia Inquirer: What to know about flash flooding
<https://www.inquirer.com/news/flash-flooding-washington-crossing-pennsylvania-20230716.html>

Philadelphia Inquirer Bucks County flooding showed the violent forces of nature
<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/commentary/flooding-washington-crossing-upper-makefield-bonds-20230717.html>

WHYY: Climate scientists say extreme rain behind deadly Bucks County flood is becoming more frequent
<https://whyy.org/articles/climate-scientists-say-extreme-rain-behind-deadly-bucks-county-flood-is-becoming-more-frequent/>

WHYY: Two years later, 'sky-high' water bills are ~still~ leaving Philly customers in shock
<https://billypenn.com/2023/07/17/philadelphia-water-bills-sky-high-surprise/>

WHYY: The next big storm could hit Coatesville. Will the flood-prone city be ready?
<https://whyy.org/articles/coatesville-chester-county-flood-preparation/>

Miscellaneous

New Castle News: Truck bursts into flames in Route 422 head-on crash
https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/local_news/truck-bursts-into-flames-in-route-422-head-on-crash/article_880162ee-24de-11ee-a9c4-e32f0693206f.html

Philadelphia Inquirer: Portion of Route 202 near King of Prussia Mall closes indefinitely after sinkhole reopens

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/route-202-sinkhole-king-of-prussia-upper-merion-east-dekalb-pike-20230717.html>

WESA: After fatal flash floods, Pa. officials urge residents to stay aware and avoid flooded roads

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2023-07-18/pennsylvania-flash-floods-roads-stay-safe>

Post-Gazette: Photos: Catastrophic flooding upends cities throughout the Northeast

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/weather-news/2023/07/17/northeast-flooding-severe-storms-rain-vermont-philadelphia/stories/202307170077>

Sunbury Daily Item: Bucknell repeats STARS gold rating for sustainability

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/local_news/bucknell-repeats-stars-gold-rating-for-sustainability/article_5beaf896-224f-11ee-8715-f3f9594147b9.html