

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

Top DEP Stories

Allegheny Front: PENNSYLVANIANS ASKED TO CUT WATER USE AS STATE ENTERS DROUGHT WATCH
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvanians-asked-to-cut-water-use-as-state-enters-drought-watch/>

Herald-Standard: Pennsylvania residents asked to voluntarily conserve water as drought watch is declared
https://www.heraldstandard.com/news/local_news/pennsylvania-residents-asked-to-voluntarily-conserve-water-as-drought-watch-is-declared/article_1e20529c-11ef-11ee-90db-c352846a2415.html

Observer-Reporter: Pennsylvania residents asked to voluntarily conserve water as drought watch is declared
https://observer-reporter.com/news/localnews/pennsylvania-residents-asked-to-voluntarily-conserve-water-as-drought-watch-is-declared/article_923252fc-11c2-11ee-b588-8f2e10e23f09.html

East Palestine Derailment

Pennlive: Months after a toxic train derailment, an Ohio community is fracturing
<https://www.pennlive.com/nation-world/2023/06/months-after-a-toxic-train-derailment-an-ohio-community-is-fracturing.html>

New Castle News: Response to fiery Ohio derailment frustrated by poor communication and incomplete information
https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/local_news/response-to-fiery-ohio-derailment-frustrated-by-poor-communication-and-incomplete-information/article_e250aaef-407e-57d6-a1b3-6f6468f74501.html

KDKA: Union official says safety of railroads has been compromised by job cuts and time constraints
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/ntsb-east-palestine-train-derailment-hearing-union-official-testimony/>

Allegheny Front: NTSB HEARING CASTS DOUBT ON DECISION TO VENT AND BURN DERAILED NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/ntsb-hearing-casts-doubt-on-decision-to-vent-and-burn-derailed-east-palestine-train-norfolk-southern/>

Post-Gazette: NTSB hearings offered new details on the toxic East Palestine train derailment. It's still not enough for some residents
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/environment/2023/06/25/east-palestine-ntsb-hearings-train-derailment/stories/202306230103>

AP: Response to fiery Ohio derailment frustrated by poor communication and incomplete information
<https://apnews.com/article/norfolk-southern-derailment-east-palestine-ohio-ntsb-bc2531012afc4ee54e6b3999e31ed9>

Mentions

Delco Times: Hazardous materials violations found at Crozer-Chester Medical Center in March
<https://www.delcotimes.com/2023/06/24/hazardous-materials-violations-found-at-crozer-chester-medical-center-in-march/>

69 News: People urged to avoid Bucks Co. lakes due to possible algae blooms
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/southeastern-pa/people-urged-to-avoid-bucks-co-lakes-due-to-possible-algae-blooms/article_6b2a01cc-120e-11ee-b84f-af05edb1a762.html

Allegheny Front: REPUBLICAN LAWMAKERS WANT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/republican-lawmakers-want-to-change-name-of-dep/>

Tribune-Review: Letter to the editor: Neither DEP's name or role should be changed
<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-neither-deps-name-or-role-should-be-changed/>

Tribune-Review: Letter to the editor: On DEP, what's in a name (change)?
<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-on-dep-whats-in-a-name-change/>

Tribune-Review: Concerns over proposed gas-powered plant in Elizabeth Township to be aired
<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/concerns-over-proposed-gas-powered-plant-in-elizabeth-township-to-be-aired/>

Tribune-Review: Safety, oversight concerns raised as Pa. lawmakers pursue billions for hydrogen hubs
<https://triblive.com/news/pennsylvania/safety-oversight-concerns-raised-as-pa-lawmakers-pursue-billions-for-hydrogen-hubs/>

Allegheny Front: SAFETY, OVERSIGHT CONCERNS RAISED AS PA. LAWMAKERS PURSUE BILLIONS FOR HYDROGEN HUBS
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/safety-oversight-concerns-raised-as-pa-lawmakers-pursue-billions-for-hydrogen-hubs/>

WESA: Safety, oversight concerns raised as Pa. lawmakers pursue billions for hydrogen hubs
<https://www.wesa.fm/politics-government/2023-06-25/pennsylvania-hydrogen-hubs>

PublicSource: Safety, oversight concerns raised as Pa. lawmakers pursue billions for hydrogen hubs
<https://www.publicsource.org/hydrogen-hubs-carbon-capture-wells-pennsylvania-lawmakers/>

Fox 56: Protecting against tickborne illnesses while enjoying Pennsylvania's outdoors: What you need to know
<https://fox56.com/news/local/protecting-against-tickborne-illnesses-while-enjoying-pennsylvanias-outdoors-what-you-need-to-know>

Sunbury Daily Item: Even with recent rain, drought conditions continue (Editorial)
https://www.dailyitem.com/opinion/even-with-recent-rain-drought-conditions-continue/article_730ffd14-1165-11ee-b2fa-5b84ddb6e839.html

Climate Change

WESA: Extreme weather worries Central Pennsylvania farmers

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2023-06-25/extreme-weather-pennsylvania-farmers>

Conservation and Recreation

Times Herald: 'You can do it': Schuylkill River Sojourn nears end with stop in West Conshohocken

<https://www.timesherald.com/2023/06/23/you-can-do-it-schuylkill-river-sojourn-nears-end-with-stop-in-west-conshohocken/>

KYW News: America's honeybees are dying and here's why

<https://www.audacy.com/kywnewsradio/news/national/americas-honeybees-are-dying-and-heres-why>

Scranton Times: UPDATE: Pocket park in hand by Summers end

https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/news/monday-update-pocket-park-in-hand-by-summers-end/article_143942a0-b1e8-5604-bb85-f11de981bc40.html

Pennlive: We need to curb development to preserve a farm and park land

<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2023/06/we-need-to-curb-develop-to-preserve-a-farm-and-parkland-pennlive-letters.html>

Lancaster Farming: Support Small Farms Through Increased Conservation Funding

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/news/support-small-farms-through-increased-conservation-funding-opinion/article_1aa87e05-89e4-5623-9029-735f983da51a.html

Bradford Era: Sponsorship available for Potter County Junior Conservation School

https://www.bradfordera.com/news/sponsorship-available-for-potter-county-junior-conservation-school/article_8a0aa148-11e4-11ee-b98b-f34233a87424.html

Bradford Era: Under the canopy: Penn State researchers study beech leaf disease in Pa. forests

https://www.bradfordera.com/news/under-the-canopy-penn-state-researchers-study-beech-leaf-disease-in-pa-forests/article_b266d328-11ee-11ee-83d5-b755b0e0914a.html

WJAC: Spotted Lanternflies wreaking havoc on local economy & crops after hatching, ecologists react

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/lanternflies-reeking-havoc-in-west-central-pa-after-hatching-this-season-ecologists-react#>

Northside Chronicle: PREVIEW: Invasive insect makes unwanted emergence in time for summer season

<https://www.thenorthsidechronicle.com/2023/06/23/preview-invasive-insect-makes-unwanted-emergence-time-summer-season/>

Allegheny Front: BILL TO RAISE FINES FOR ILLEGAL EAGLE KILLINGS PASSES PA SENATE

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/bill-to-raise-fines-for-illegal-bald-eagle-killings-passes-pennsylvania-senate/>

WESA: Pennsylvania Senate passes bill to raise fines for illegal eagle killings

<https://www.wesa.fm/politics-government/2023-06-24/pennsylvania-senate-eagle-killings-fines>

Latrobe Bulletin: Volunteers help remove graffiti at Forbes State Park

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/volunteers-help-remove-graffiti-at-forbes-state-park/article_e1799d4f-4cc8-57db-a076-a89515b16d23.html

Tribune-Democrat: WATCH VIDEO | Congregation blesses Little Conemaugh River

https://www.tribdem.com/news/watch-video-congregation-blesses-little-conemaugh-river/article_97dc932a-137f-11ee-975f-9bc26332f8a1.html

Tribune-Review: Pine-Richland's Eden Hall, Hance elementaries honored for creating healthy, sustainable environments

<https://triblive.com/local/pine-richlands-eden-hall-hance-elementaries-honored-for-creating-healthy-sustainable-environments/>

Tribune-Review: Turnpike, PennDOT officials expand pollinator habitats, will include Irwin interchange

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/turnpike-penn-dot-officials-expand-pollinator-habitats-will-include-irwin-interchange/>

Post-Gazette: Poison hemlock is in bloom in Western Pennsylvania and — while pretty — it's 'a very toxic plant'

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/health/2023/06/24/poison-hemlock-pa/stories/202306250077>

Energy

WHYY: Will climate change force the future of nuclear energy to look smaller and more mobile?

<https://whyy.org/segments/will-climate-change-force-the-future-of-nuclear-energy-to-look-smaller-and-more-mobile/>

Tribune-Review: North Huntingdon gives preliminary OK for lithium-ion battery farm

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/north-huntingdon-gives-preliminary-ok-for-lithium-ion-battery-farm/>

Lock Haven Express: As fuel taxes plummet, states weigh charging by the mile instead of the tank

<https://www.lockhaven.com/news/local-news/2023/06/as-fuel-taxes-plummet-states-weigh-charging-by-the-mile-instead-of-the-tank/>

Renovo Record: Clean energy program may soon include EV chargers

<https://therecord-online.com/site/archives/96588>

Renovo Record: More than \$8.5 million in natural gas impact fees distributed within 25th senatorial district

<https://therecord-online.com/site/archives/96582>

Mining

Shamokin News-Item: Shamokin Creek restoration could yield critical minerals

https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/shamokin-creek-restoration-could-yield-critical-minerals/article_940fd985-b6ea-5d28-bbb7-2f752ba372ad.html

Oil and Gas

Delco Times: Gas prices tick up in the Philadelphia market, but still below last month and last year
<https://www.delcotimes.com/2023/06/26/gas-prices-tick-up-in-the-philadelphia-market-but-still-below-last-month-and-last-year/>

Record Argus: County to see \$800K-plus in Marcellus fees
<https://www.recordargusnews.com/articles/county-to-see-800k-plus-in-marcellus-fees/>

Daily American: Gas wells still operating for Somerset County with impact fees
<https://www.dailyamerican.com/story/news/2023/06/23/gas-wells-still-operating-for-somerset-county-with-impact-fees/70346155007/>

Post-Gazette: Lisa Patel: Gas stoves really are very bad for you
<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/Op-Ed/2023/06/24/benzene-pollution-anemia-cancer/stories/202306240022>

RGGI

Pittsburgh Business Times: Power plant allies say Homer City won't be only casualty of RGGI
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2023/06/23/power-plant-allies-say-homer-citys-closing.html>

Radiation Protection

WHYY: A secret mission to dump radioactive cargo in Atlantic Ocean tells history of nuclear tests
<https://whyy.org/segments/a-secret-mission-to-dump-radioactive-cargo-in-atlantic-ocean-tells-history-of-nuclear-tests/>

WHYY: Where can the U.S. put 88,000 tons of nuclear waste?
<https://whyy.org/segments/us-nuclear-waste-store-tons/>

Vector Management

KYW News: Giant snails invade Florida
<https://www.audacy.com/kywnewsradio/news/national/giant-snails-invade-florida>

Carlisle Sentinel: DCNR promotes tick awareness at Colonel Denning State Park
<https://cumberlink.com/news/local/>

CBS21: Protect yourself this tick season: tips to keep you and your family safe
<https://local21news.com/news/local/protect-yourself-this-tick-season-tips-to-keep-you-and-your-family-safe#>

WICU-TV: Bipartisan Congressional Members Push for Legislation to Mitigate Spotted Lanternflies
<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/49115437/bipartisan-congressional-members-push-for-legislation-to-mitigate-spotted-lanternflies>

KDKA: What scientists say keeps mosquitoes at bay

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/what-scientists-say-keeps-mosquitoes-at-bay/>

Waste

KDKA: West Virginia industrial gas plant will pay \$1.9 million for Ohio River pollution

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/west-virginia-industrial-gas-plant-will-pay-1-9-million-for-ohio-river-pollution-5/>

Mon Valley Independent: White Oak Lions Club recycles bags into benches

<https://monvalleyindependent.com/2023/06/white-oak-lions-club-recycles-bags-into-benches/>

Water

Lancaster Newspapers: With community guidance, a new plan to clean up the upper Conestoga

https://lancasteronline.com/sports/outdoors/with-community-guidance-a-new-plan-to-clean-up-the-upper-conestoga-column/article_7977d0d6-11e8-11ee-a55a-770cc58ccf74.html

York Dispatch: Some flooding possible in areas of York County over next few days

<https://www.yorkdispatch.com/story/news/local/2023/06/23/some-flooding-possible-in-areas-of-york-county-over-next-few-days/70349935007/>

Altoona Mirror: AWA to consider backflow program

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2023/06/awa-to-consider-backflow-program/>

Huntingdon Daily News: Water assessment planned for Shavers Creek

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/water-assessment-planned-for-shavers-creek/article_de174b26-0576-5f03-a975-00a6303ae7a4.html

Mon Valley Independent: Monongahela: \$1.5M upgrade of water system to begin next week

<https://monvalleyindependent.com/2023/06/monongahela-1-5m-upgrade-of-water-system-to-begin-next-week/>

Mon Valley Independent: Charleroi council president 'hopeful' for ABC resolution

<https://monvalleyindependent.com/2023/06/charleroi-council-president-hopeful-for-abc-resolution/>

Next Pittsburgh: PWSA proposes three years of water rate increases in Pittsburgh

<https://nextpittsburgh.com/environment/pwsa-proposes-three-years-of-water-rate-increases-in-pittsburgh/>

Tribune-Review: \$8.8M in covid funds earmarked for water, sewer projects in Westmoreland

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/covid-funds-to-pay-for-water-sewer-projects-in-westmoreland-county/>

Centre Daily Times: Afield: New trout management proposal could affect anglers on two Centre County streams

https://www.centredaily.com/sports/outdoors/article276674291.html?ac_cid=DM815163&ac_bid=-1038240859

Renovo Record: Lock Haven City Beach shut down after water quality tests

<https://therecord-online.com/site/archives/96584>

Renovo Record: Lock Haven City Beach reopens

<https://therecord-online.com/site/archives/96613>

Miscellaneous

Daily Local: Who let the cows out? Chester County bovine escape plan has Facebook erupting in ‘udder’ hilarity

<https://www.dailylocal.com/2023/06/23/who-let-the-cows-out-bovine-escape-plan-has-facebook-erupting-in-udder-hilarity/>

Pennlive: Ghost of incinerator debacle haunts Harrisburg’s fiscal independence

<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2023/06/ghost-of-incinerator-debacle-haunts-harrisburgs-fiscal-independence.html>

Pennlive: Poison hemlock looks pretty, but this plant can be deadly

<https://www.pennlive.com/outdoors/2023/06/poison-hemlock-looks-pretty-but-this-plant-can-be-deadly.html>

Gettysburg Times: PennDOT, Turnpike lead way in pollinator plantings

https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/basket/article_407f9acc-564b-5143-8ca8-9397fb9e77a4.html

CBS21: Divers recover submerged car from lake in York County

<https://local21news.com/news/local/divers-recover-completely-submerged-vehicle-crash-lake-marburg-vehicle-sinking-york-county-pennsylvania#>

FOX43: Dry conditions cause short term dilemma at Lancaster farm

<https://www.fox43.com/article/weather/dry-conditions-short-term-dilemma-cherry-crest-adventure-farm-lancaster-county/521-4376b378-268f-4e66-8928-0f5163111bce>

WGAL: Burn ban still in effect in York County despite recent rain

<https://www.wgal.com/article/york-county-burn-ban-still-in-effect-despite-recent-rain/44322367>

Post-Gazette: Matt Smith and Chellie Cameron: Pennsylvania is open for business

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/guest-columns/2023/06/24/chamber-commerce-growth-shapiro/stories/202306240010>

Environmental Health News: Shell’s petrochemical plant in Pennsylvania hasn’t spurred economic growth: Report

<https://www.ehn.org/shell-petrochemicals-economics-2661753918.html>

NorthcentralPA.com: Former Old Lycoming officials hinting at corruption, allege “toxic” environment following exodus of staff and supervisors

https://www.northcentralpa.com/news/former-old-lycoming-officials-hinting-at-corruption/article_83eb639a-11c3-11ee-9670-07fe15f5fdae.html