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Top DEP Stories

WITF: A third of Pa. drinking water samples contained toxic chemicals. The state says there's 'no widespread contamination'

<https://www.witf.org/2019/12/09/a-third-of-pa-drinking-water-samples-contained-toxic-chemicals-the-state-says-theres-no-widespread-contamination/>

Tribune-Review: Continuing issues at Jeannette plant highlight gaps in hemp regulation

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/continuing-issues-at-jeannette-plant-highlight-gaps-in-hemp-regulation/>

StateImpact: A third of Pa. drinking water samples contained toxic chemicals. The state says there's 'no widespread contamination'

<https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2019/12/09/a-third-of-pa-drinking-water-samples-contained-toxic-chemicals-the-state-says-theres-no-widespread-contamination/>

Mentions

Bradford Era: Boil water advisory to continue into Wednesday

http://www.bradfordera.com/news/local/boil-water-advisory-to-continue-into-wednesday/article_0fd08f76-3422-599c-bf02-62e8e18f4046.html

The Derrick: Franklin projects prioritized (Water Treatment Facility)

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/franklin-projects-prioritized/article_ecac619f-aac1-59ed-88e6-1a9c05a332ba.html

Altoona Mirror: Dam permit pending

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2019/12/dam-permit-pending/>

Scranton Times: Scranton cleared of dumping garbage

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/news/scranton-cleared-of-dumping-garbage-1.2568501>

Post-Gazette: Is shale development worth the costs? A CMU study says no.

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/health/2019/12/08/shale-development-natural-gas-drilling-fracking-costs-health-study-pennsylvania-cmu/stories/201912060038>

Air

Reading Eagle: Lehigh Cement Co. settles lawsuit for \$12 million, agrees to improve emissions at 11 facilities including Maiden Creek Township

<https://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/lehigh-cement-co-settles-air-pollution-suit-agrees-to-improve-emissions-at-11-facilities-including-maidencreek-township>

Beaver County Times: Letter to the Editor: Sidewalk diners now forced to smell exhaust fumes because of backwards parking

<https://www.timesonline.com/opinion/20191208/letter-to-editor-sidewalk-diners-now-forced-to-smell-exhaust-fumes-because-of-backwards-parking>

Post-Gazette: Agriculture and transportation are major polluters

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/environment/2019/12/08/Agriculture-transportation-pollution-cmu-study/stories/201910080151>

Climate Change

Daily Collegian: Penn State students, State College community members march in climate strike

https://www.collegian.psu.edu/news/borough/article_5f1459b0-188d-11ea-9bd7-f7ae0f0b97ad.html

Milton Standard-Journal: Climate march draws more than 100 strikers

http://www.standard-journal.com/news/local/article_21cfc814-0682-5d65-8b7d-b52f870a9fa8.html

WJAC: Climate change activists protest in State College

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/climate-change-activists-protest-in-state-college>

Post-Gazette: Rally for action on climate change held Downtown

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/city/2019/12/06/Rally-climate-change-held-Downtown-Pittsburgh-high-school-college-students/stories/201912070025>

Allegheny Front: New Book from Longtime Environmentalist Offers Advice to the New Generation Solving the Climate Crisis

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/new-book-from-longtime-environmentalist-offers-advice-to-the-new-generation-solving-the-climate-crisis/>

AP: Climate scientists try to cut their own carbon footprints

<https://apnews.com/dde2bf108411ecd973de60bfda5250aa>

Conservation & Recreation

The Derrick: Parks survey: Outdoor rec opportunities need upgrade

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/parks-survey-outdoor-rec-opportunities-need-upgrade/article_cd26704f-2814-5ee4-a316-d2f6855af0d8.html

Times Observer: Chapman State Park restoration about to turn corner

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2019/12/chapman-state-park-restoration-about-to-turn-corner/>

Pocono Record: Thousands of acres added to Delaware Highlands Conservancy

<https://www.poconorecord.com/news/20191208/thousands-of-acres-added-to-delaware-highlands-conservancy>

Centre County Gazette: Making a connection: Rails to Trails route connecting Philipsburg and Snow Shoe

<http://www.statecollege.com/news/centre-county-gazette/making-a-connection,1481890/>

Lock Haven Express: Listening to the birds

<https://www.lockhaven.com/news/outdoors/2019/12/listening-to-the-birds/>

Times Leader: Recruitment underway for Earth Conservancy's Environmental Workforce Training Program

<https://www.timesleader.com/news/765233/recruitment-underway-for-earth-conservancys-environmental-workforce-training-program>

WESA: New Post-Election Campaign Finance Reports Show Conservancy As Major Backer For Parks Tax

<https://www.wesa.fm/post/new-post-election-campaign-finance-reports-show-conservancy-major-backer-parks-tax>

Tribune-Review: Online map could soon help paddlers explore Kiski, Conemaugh rivers

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/online-map-could-soon-help-paddlers-explore-kiski-conemaugh-rivers/>

Post-Gazette: A sharp eye on parks tax: Hold Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy to its promises

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/editorials/2019/12/07/A-sharp-eye-on-parks-tax-Hold-Pittsburgh-Parks-Conservancy-to-its-promises/stories/201911300017>

Post-Gazette: A long time coming: Sunday hunting is finally legal

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/editorials/2019/12/09/A-long-time-coming-Sunday-hunting-is-finally-legal/stories/201911260053>

Tribune-Review: 30 years in: Pennsylvania's heritage areas boost tourism, local economies

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/30-years-in-pennsylvanias-heritage-areas-boost-tourism-local-economies/>

Energy

Lancaster Newspapers: No such thing as free energy

https://lancasteronline.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/no-such-thing-as-free-energy-letter/article_5f85f46e-1881-11ea-b9fe-47f36dee6027.html

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Energy efficient holiday lights (Op-Ed)

<https://www.sungazette.com/opinion/other-commentaries/2019/12/energy-efficient-holiday-lights/>

Tribune-Review: Michael Butler: Gas & solar together benefit Pittsburgh Airport

<https://triblive.com/opinion/michael-butler-gas-solar-together-benefit-pittsburgh-airport/>

Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields

Pittsburgh Business Times: Our Next 75: Hazelwood is a testing ground for designing an inclusive economy

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/06/our-next-75-hazelwood-is-a-testing-ground-for.html>

Oil and Gas

Observer-Reporter: Health concerns driving force behind Scenery Hill mom's environmental tours
https://observer-reporter.com/business/health-concerns-driving-force-behind-scenery-hill-mom-s-environmental/article_b0dc450c-1061-11ea-9cf7-47da53989db7.html

Observer-Reporter: By any name, Olympus aspires to be a Greek god of energy
https://observer-reporter.com/business/by-any-name-olympus-aspires-to-be-a-greek-god/article_9d4ddd82-1518-11ea-9e79-db2d2ecaa668.html

Tribune-Review: Murrysville council, Olympus Energy continue working out possible fracking well conditions
<https://triblive.com/local/murrysville/murrysville-council-olympus-energy-continue-working-out-possible-fracking-well-conditions/>

Waste

York Daily Record: Litter costs money, and guess what? You're paying for it
<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/2019/12/09/litter-costing-taxpayers-money-and-illegal-dumping-even-worse/2621001001/>

Carlisle Sentinel: Carlisle announces switchover date for trash collection
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/communities/carlisle/carlisle-announces-switchover-date-for-trash-collection/article_7c992d96-7ecc-5806-99fe-849edf982407.html

WTIF/StateImpact: Philadelphia's ban on single-use plastic bags moves toward passage into law
<https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2019/12/06/philadelphias-ban-on-single-use-plastic-bags-moves-toward-passage-into-law/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Bettering the environment through recycling program (LTE)
<https://www.sungazette.com/opinion/letters/2019/12/bettering-the-environment/>

WPXI: Local township now offering glass recycling drop-off
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/top-stories/south-strabane-glass-recycling-local-township-now-offering-glass-recycling-drop-off/1016497015>

Water

Kittanning Paper: Brown Water Spurs Need for Water Line Grant
<http://www.kittanningpaper.com/2019/12/09/brown-water-spurs-need-for-water-line-grant/80047>

WICU-TV: Bradford Boil Water Advisory
<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/41418307/bradford-boil-water-advisory>

Altoona Mirror: Keep lake development in designated areas
<https://www.altoonamirror.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2019/12/keep-lake-development-in-designated-areas/>

Altoona Mirror: Boating at Raystown already overcrowded

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/2019/12/boating-at-raystown-already-overcrowded/>

Huntingdon Daily News: MU to seeks funds for creek project

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/mu-to-seeks-funds-for-creek-project/article_06976213-b419-5adb-a4bd-0a931a4f1808.html

Times News: Bowmanstown takes \$1.5M loan for treatment plant

<https://www.tnonline.com/bowmanstown-takes-15m-loan-treatment-plant>

Beaver County Times: Commissioners mull new member to Beaver County Conservation District Board

<https://www.timesonline.com/news/20191209/commissioners-mull-new-member-to-beaver-county-conservation-district-board>

KDKA: 18 Pittsburgh Public Schools Tested Positive For Lead

<https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2019/12/06/18-pittsburgh-public-schools-tested-positive-for-lead/>

Observer-Reporter: CHJA to increase rates, submit to forensic audit

https://observer-reporter.com/news/localnews/chja-to-increase-rates-submit-to-forensic-audit/article_c5a30de6-18ee-11ea-a797-f33ea6e8e56b.html

Tribune-Review: Taxes remain flat but water, trash rates increase in Brackenridge

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/taxes-remain-flat-but-water-trash-rates-increase-in-brackenridge/>

Tribune-Review: Sewage rates to increase, property taxes stay flat in Lower Burrell's 2020 budget

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/sewage-rates-to-increase-property-taxes-stay-flat-in-lower-burrells-2020-budget/>

Observer-Reporter: Army Corps enters full-scale dredging of Monongahela River

https://observer-reporter.com/news/localnews/army-corps-enters-full-scale-dredging-of-monongahela-river/article_c1e3f87a-185b-11ea-af56-133cc154aace.html

Pittsburgh Patch: Eighteen Pittsburgh Schools Test Positive For Lead

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/pittsburgh/eighteen-pittsburgh-schools-test-positive-lead>

Miscellaneous

NorthcentralPA.com: PennDOT: CSVT project's Northern Section 80 percent complete

https://www.northcentralpa.com/news/penn-dot-csvt-project-s-northern-section-percent-complete/article_759f9a2c-179e-11ea-ae69-2f3b61a09a09.html

Pittsburgh Business Times: Our Next 75: The Allegheny Conference arrived at a crucial point for Pittsburgh

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/09/our-next-75-the-allegheny-conference-arrived-at-a.html>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Our Next 75: Building a transportation infrastructure for the future

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/09/our-next-75-building-a-transportation.html>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Bayer Corp. scouting region for new 275,000 square foot distribution center
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/12/06/bayer-corp-scouting-region-for-new-275-000-square.html>

Beaver County Times: Letter to the Editor: Pittsburgh cleaned up its act; mayor needs to continue that effort
<https://www.timesonline.com/opinion/20191208/letter-to-editor-pittsburgh-cleaned-up-its-act-mayor-needs-to-continue-that-effort>

Post-Gazette: As Others See It: Some firms escape taxes while nation's infrastructure decays
<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/Op-Ed/2019/12/07/As-Others-See-It-Some-firms-escape-taxes-while-nation-infrastructure-decays/stories/201912070004>