

*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

Towanda Daily Revie: Eureka issued notice for failing to meet Standing Stone cleanup deadline
https://www.thedailyreview.com/news/local/eureka-issued-notice-for-failing-to-meet-standing-stone-cleanup-deadline/article_d0eacc44-9230-497f-a947-16d973a7236e.html

LehighValleyLive: EPA addressing Palmerton Superfund site drinking water contamination
<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/news/2026/01/epa-addressing-palmerton-superfund-site-drinking-water-contamination.html>

Mentions

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection rejects Connoquenessing's controversial sewage plan
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/environment/2026/01/17/connoquenessing-butler-dep-sewage-consent-order/stories/202601160071>

WESA: Pa. residents should test for radon, a leading cause of lung cancer
<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2026-01-20/pa-radon-lung-cancer>

Allegheny Front: Coal communities accuse Congress of breaking its promise to clean up abandoned mine lands
<https://www.allegenyfront.org/coal-communities-congress-funding-clean-up-abandoned-mine-lands/>

News-Item: AOAA director: BAMR to conduct two reclamation projects on Western Reserve
https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/aoaa-director-bamr-to-conduct-two-reclamation-projects-on-western-reserve/article_be7bb709-45bc-486e-99bf-bb571fa63fa3.html

Climate Change

Allegheny Front: Early spring wildflowers are blooming even earlier thanks to climate change
<https://www.allegenyfront.org/early-spring-wildflowers-blooming-earlier-climate-change/>

Conservation and Recreation

KDKA: Otters captured on trail cam playing in snow at Pennsylvania state park
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/otters-playing-in-snow-pennsylvania-state-park/>

WTAE: Allegheny County Parks winter recreational facilities closed Tuesday due to weather

<https://www.wtae.com/article/allegheny-county-recreational-facilities-closed-tuesday-weather/70053418>

The Progress: Clearfield County Charitable Foundation donates funds for playground equipment
https://www.theprogressnews.com/news/clearfield-county-charitable-foundation-donates-funds-for-playground-equipment/article_ba7e428a-0b5e-439d-963d-6f250e661934.html

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Hamm, Yaw help forward over \$404K to recreation, conservation projects
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/01/hamm-yaw-help-forward-over-404k-to-recreation-conservation-projects-2/>

Morning Call: Seeking solitude? Go for a winter hike on these Lehigh Valley trails
<https://www.mcall.com/2026/01/20/seeking-solitude-go-for-a-winter-hike-on-these-lehigh-valley-trails/>

Data Centers

Allegheny Front: Many Pa. residents don't want data centers in their communities. State leaders are welcoming them.

<https://www.allegenyfront.org/pennsylvania-data-centers-regulation-opposition-environment/>

Allegheny Front: How Trump's anti-renewables policies collide with growth of AI
<https://www.allegenyfront.org/trump-electricity-prices-renewable-energy-ai-data-centers/>

Pennlive: AI's thirst threatens Pennsylvania's wells
<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2026/01/ais-thirst-threatens-pennsylvanias-wells-pennlive-letters.html>

Carlisle Sentinel: Organizers postpone data center forum scheduled for Tuesday
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_05ae6222-648b-4cf6-afe2-2be68ae9ca40.html

Press Enterprise: Crowd airs data center concerns
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/daily/012026/page/1/story/crowd-airs-data-center-concerns>

Morning Call: Lehigh Valley planners get a look at another massive data center project
<https://www.mcall.com/2026/01/19/lehigh-valley-planners-get-a-look-at-another-massive-data-center-project/>

Times-Tribune: Jessup denies Breaker Street data centers
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/01/19/jessup-denies-breaker-street-data-centers/>

Times-Tribune: Dickson City to hold second hearing on data center legislation Tuesday
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/01/19/dickson-city-to-hold-second-hearing-on-data-center-legislation-tuesday/>

Indiana Gazette: Concerned Residents of Western PA to host community gathering on Homer City power plant, data center

https://www.indianagazette.com/news/concerned-residents-of-western-pa-to-host-community-gathering-on-homer-city-power-plant-data/article_df35246f-80d0-4977-9c93-1d317b1cdb41.html

The Mercury: Looming game lands swap in Linfield raises second data center fears

<https://www.pottsmec.com/2026/01/19/looming-game-lands-swap-in-linfield-raises-second-data-center-fears/>

Energy

Pittsburgh Business Times: Pennsylvania lawmakers introduce bipartisan bills to advance geothermal energy development in the state

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/01/19/pennsylvania-geothermal-expansion-development.html>

FOX43: PA Farm Show butter sculpture gets turned into renewable energy

<https://www.fox43.com/article/life/animals/pa-farm-show-butter-sculpture-gets-turned-into-renewable-energy-juniata-county/521-73914df6-5513-43d1-bd02-11d3bb448a1d>

Indiana Gazette: Struzzi hails decree that could keep Keystone, Conemaugh plants going after 2028

https://www.indianagazette.com/news/local/struzzi-hails-decree-that-could-keep-keystone-conemaugh-plants-going-after-2028/article_1d51c67e-690d-4c45-a2eb-036eba435191.html

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

WFMZ: More than 230 apartments proposed for former Promenade in Exeter

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/reading-area/more-than-230-apartments-proposed-for-former-promenade-in-exeter/article_dfbaa094-1844-44fc-b5a4-64c0e9bb5410.html

New Castle News: This week ahead: City seeks comments on Shenango China site cleanup

https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/local_news/this-week-ahead-city-seeks-comments-on-shenango-china-site-cleanup/article_9b14e46d-56da-4121-b197-4b876d16683c.html

PhillyBurbs: PA gave \$1.8 million in open space grants to these Bucks County towns

<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/local/2026/01/15/dcnr-announces-82-million-in-pa-grants-including-bucks-county-parks/88182413007/>

Water

WPXI: Large water main break creates trouble for Pine Township residents already braving the cold

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/large-water-main-break-creates-trouble-pine-township-residents-already-braving-cold/TLAQWL43XZDP3DZ4WIRFJODPIM/>

Lancaster Online: Strasburg Borough receives grant for Eshelman Run streambank restoration

https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/strasburg-borough-receives-grant-for-eshelman-run-streambank-restoration/article_06d19d45-dadc-4eb9-b4e9-5efbfd21dc04.html

Carlisle Sentinel: Mount Holly Springs will work with Cumberland County to replace problem bridge
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_87f55fb2-e5f5-4175-b393-fe4ffe0bcfe6.html

WFMZ: Public hearings on proposed water and sewer rate increase come to Berks County
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/public-hearings-on-proposed-water-and-sewer-rate-increase-come-to-berks-county/article_cba7a690-4bf7-4bb6-9a71-480280bbd207.html

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: River trip helped bring awareness to West Branch of Susquehanna
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2026/01/river-trip-helped-bring-awareness-to-west-branch-of-susquehanna/>

Miscellaneous

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Stargazing: These sisters live fast and die young
<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/outdoors/2026/01/20/astronomy-pleiades-merope/stories/202601200002>

WPXI: Duquesne Light Company increases staffing amidst extreme cold this week
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/duquesne-light-company-increases-staffing-amidst-extreme-cold-this-week/AVRWLER2RJAMLG17JOKA7RJSBM/>

WESA: As arctic air chills Pa. and much of US, Pittsburgh CitiParks to open warming centers
<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2026-01-19/pittsburgh-citiparks-warming-centers-arctic-air-pa>

Lancaster Farming: Hydroponic Farmers Turn Half Acre Into Million-Dollar Enterprise
https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/produce/hydroponic-farmers-turn-half-acre-into-million-dollar-enterprise/article_1f628b65-270a-46dc-ad26-ac7fb1607de9.html