

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

Top DEP Stories

WITF/StateImpact: Brunner Island plant will pay \$1 million fine for coal ash pollution

<https://www.witf.org/news/2019/07/brunner-island-plant-will-pay-1-million-fine-for-coal-ash-pollution.php>

York Dispatch: Owner of Brunner Island expected to pay \$1 million penalty over coal ash pollution

<https://www.yorkdispatch.com/story/news/politics/2019/07/31/owner-brunner-island-expected-pay-1-million-penalty-over-coal-ash-pollution/1876844001/>

WGAL: Plant agrees to reduce toxic runoff into groundwater and Susquehanna, pay \$1M penalty

<https://www.wgal.com/article/plant-agrees-to-reduce-toxic-runoff-into-groundwater-and-susquehanna-pay-dollar1m-penalty-talen-energy/28566149>

Pennlive: York County power plant to pay hefty fine, clean up coal ash along Susquehanna

<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2019/07/york-county-power-plant-to-pay-hefty-fine-clean-up-coal-ash-along-susquehanna.html>

FOX43: Brunner Island power plant owners agree to \$1M penalty, largest ever assessed in PA for coal ash pollution

<https://fox43.com/2019/07/31/brunner-island-power-plant-owners-agree-to-1m-penalty-largest-ever-assessed-in-pa-for-coal-ash-pollution/>

ABC27: Brunner Island power plant owners agree to \$1M penalty, coal ash cleanup

<https://www.abc27.com/news/local/york/brunner-island-power-plant-owners-agree-to-1m-penalty-coal-ash-cleanup/>

ABC27: NSA Mechanicsburg looking to test surrounding homes well water supply

<https://www.abc27.com/news/local/nsa-mechanicsburg-looking-to-test-surrounding-homes-well-water-supply/>

CBS21: Ground water chemical testing to start Thursday in Cumberland County

<https://local21news.com/news/local/ground-water-chemical-testing-to-start-thursday-in-cumberland-county>

FOX43: U.S. Navy hosts open house meeting as water testing for potential PFAS looms

<https://fox43.com/2019/07/31/u-s-navy-hosts-open-house-meeting-as-water-testing-for-potential-pfas-looms/>

Erie Times: DEP issues new violation notices to Erie Coke

<https://www.goerie.com/news/20190731/dep-issues-new-violation-notices-to-erie-coke>

Mentions

StateImpact PA: Delaware County chemical plant fined \$750,000 for air pollution violations

<https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2019/07/31/delaware-county-chemical-plant-fined-750000-for-air-pollution-violations/>

Erie Reader: The Lowdown on High Water

<https://www.erieviewer.com/article/the-lowdown-on-high-water>

WICU-TV: First Erie Coke Air Quality Samples Being Sent for Testing

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/40861134/first-erie-coke-air-quality-samples-being-sent-for-testing>

Centre Daily Times: Power plant to pay fine, clean up coal ash along Susquehanna

<https://www.centredaily.com/news/business/article233355727.html>

Sunbury Daily Item: Work to find common ground on sewer rates (Editorial)

https://www.dailyitem.com/opinion/work-to-find-common-ground-on-sewer-rates/article_c04e44d1-3971-579e-af63-2b2dfdd9d9ee.html

WESA: Power Plant To Pay Fine, Clean Up Coal Ash Along Susquehanna

<https://www.wesa.fm/post/power-plant-pay-fine-clean-coal-ash-along-susquehanna>

Beaver County Times: DEP: No impact from spill at Falcon pipeline site

<https://www.timesonline.com/news/20190731/dep-no-impact-from-spill-at-falcon-pipeline-site>

Post-Gazette: Shale development has brought Pennsylvania many benefits

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/letters/2019/08/01/Shale-development-has-brought-Pennsylvania-many-benefits/stories/201908010057>

Restore Pennsylvania

WICU-TV: State Officials Visit Presque Isle, Discuss Restore PA

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/40861349/state-officials-visit-presque-isle-discuss-restore-pa>

Erie-Times: DCNR chief stumps at Presque Isle for state parks funding plan

<https://www.goerie.com/news/20190731/dcnr-chief-stumps-at-presque-isle-for-state-parks-funding-plan>

Bradford Era: DCNR chief stumps at Presque Isle for state funding plan (A3)

http://www.bradfordera.com/edition/page-a/page_b9839e72-849d-5587-9668-40e59ed0ad89.html

Butler Eagle: Water fixes might be costly

<http://www.butlereagle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20190801/NEWS01/708019862>

Air

WHYY: Western Pa. residents, workers air their responses to U.S. Steel settlement

<https://whyy.org/articles/western-pa-residents-workers-air-their-responses-to-u-s-steel-settlement/>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Coal-fired plant operator to pay Pa. 'historic' \$1M for polluting water with ash

<https://www.inquirer.com/science/climate/brunner-island-susquehanna-coal-20190731.html>

WITF/StateImpact: Delaware County chemical plant fined \$750,000 for air pollution violations
<https://www.witf.org/news/2019/07/delaware-county-chemical-plant-fined-750000-for-air-pollution-violations.php>

Pittsburgh Business Times: First look: Inside the Tenaska Westmoreland Generating Station
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2019/08/01/first-look-inside-the-tenaska-westmoreland.html>

Climate Change

Titusville Herald: Weather serves as a call to act (A4)
http://www.titusvilleherald.com/eedition/page_6a4336b2-459a-56ba-8f1a-348f2a169a9e.html#page_a4

Pennlive: New sharks could be visiting the Jersey Shore thanks to climate change
<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2019/07/new-sharks-could-be-visiting-the-jersey-shore-thanks-to-climate-change.html>

Centre Daily Times: "Climate grief:" Fears about the planet's future weigh on Americans' mental health
<https://www.centredaily.com/news/business/health-care/article233331327.html>

Conservation & Recreation

Times Observer: Youth Conservation Camp explore the Great Outdoors
<http://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2019/08/pirates-of-the-alleghenies/>

ABC27: Major progress being made on Capital Area Greenbelt extension
<https://www.abc27.com/news/local/harrisburg/major-progress-being-made-on-capital-area-greenbelt-extension/>

WTAJ: New trail brings more opportunities to bicyclists
<https://www.wearecentralpa.com/news/local-news/new-trail-brings-more-opportunities-to-bicyclists/>

Sunbury Daily Item: Sparse donations put Montour Preserve future in jeopardy
https://www.dailyitem.com/the_danville_news/news/sparse-donations-put-montour-preserve-future-in-jeopardy/article_491cc43c-b604-55fc-bc12-c988ae507be5.html

Potter Leader-Enterprise: Austin Dam: A great place to visit; 1913 disaster inspired regulation of dams in Pennsylvania
http://www.tiogapublishing.com/potter_leader_enterprise/austin-dam-a-great-place-to-visit/article_7241467b-7a90-5892-be56-40b5acb90a05.html

WJAC: New bike trail opens at Quemahoning Reservoir
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/new-bike-trail-opens-at-quemahoning-reservoir>

Beaver County Times: Bicycle safety meeting in Monaca

<https://www.timesonline.com/news/20190731/bicycle-safety-meeting-in-monaca>

Daily American: Seventeen-mile mountain biking trail opens at Quemahoning Reservoir

https://www.dailyamerican.com/news/local/seventeen-mile-mountain-biking-trail-opens-at-quemahoning-reservoir/article_3ede5c35-1751-52a6-8905-88c6cd717086.html

Energy

Tribune-review: Tenaska plant near Smithton generating power, money

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/tenaska-plant-near-smithton-generating-power-money/>

Tribune-Review: Don't take that cool breeze for granted

<https://pinecreek.triblive.com/dont-take-that-cool-breeze-for-granted/>

Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields

WICU-TV: Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps at McKinley Park Welcomes Wolf Administration

<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/40861344/pennsylvania-outdoor-corps-at-mckinley-park-welcomes-wolf-administration>

WJET-TV: Pennsylvania DCNR Secretary visits Erie

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/pennsylvania-dcnr-secretary-visits-erie/>

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: County to contract with local company for environmental cleanups

<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/county-to-contract-with-local-company-for-environmental-cleanups/>

Mining

Pennlive: Let's clean up our abandoned mines; support the RECLAIM Act

<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2019/07/lets-clean-up-our-abandoned-mines-support-the-reclaim-act-pennlive-letters.html>

Oil and Gas

WHYY: Advisory group to seek public's views on future of PES refinery

https://whyy.org/articles/advisory-group-to-seek-publics-views-on-future-of-pes-refinery/?%3Futm_source=dlvr&utm_medium=twitterauto&utm_campaign=social-inbound

Meadville Tribune: Work continues along pipeline from northeast Ohio to Meadville

https://www.meadvilletribune.com/news/work-continues-along-pipeline-from-northeast-ohio-to-meadville/article_8a6e6b30-b3db-11e9-a766-af47badd1df1.html

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: Landowners' group opposes gas lease legislation

<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/landowners-group-opposes-gas-lease-legislation/>

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: PA royalty owners group ends NARO affiliation

<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/pa-royalty-owners-group-ends-naro-affiliation/>

Observer-Reporter: Five injured in North Franklin Township house explosion

https://observer-reporter.com/news/localnews/five-injured-in-north-franklin-township-house-explosion/article_2a722694-b3cd-11e9-a137-1f81bc7773a1.html

Tribune-Review: Explosion levels Washington County home

<https://triblive.com/local/regional/explosion-destroys-washington-county-home/>

Tribune-Review: Letter to the editor: Natural gas a win for everyone

<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-natural-gas-a-win-for-everyone/>

Post-Gazette: The Catch-22 of low natural gas prices

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2019/08/01/low-natural-gas-prices-futures-drilling-fracking-marcellus-utica-shale-appalachia/stories/201908010047>

Radiation Protection

Press & Journal: When to start TMI cleanup? Exelon wants to wait years, but watchdog group says do it now

<http://www.pressandjournal.com/stories/when-to-start-tmi-cleanup-exelon-wants-to-wait-years-but-watchdog-group-says-do-it-now,63632>

Press & Journal: Watchdog group questions usage of fund for Three Mile Island's dry cask storage

<http://www.pressandjournal.com/stories/watchdog-group-questions-usage-of-fund-for-tmis-dry-cask-storage,63630>

Vector Management

Erie Times: Vigilance only defense against tick-borne infection: Ask the Doctors

<https://www.goerie.com/entertainmentlife/20190801/vigilance-only-defense-against-tick-borne-infection-ask-doctors>

Bradford Era: Water Authority closing Marilla Loop trail to remove infested ash trees

http://www.bradfordera.com/news/local/water-authority-closing-marilla-loop-trail-to-remove-infested-ash/article_a39d5c25-5767-5601-a70e-4a216c2f3375.html

Centre Daily Times: Light pollution could make West Nile virus in birds more infections, study suggests

<https://www.centredaily.com/news/nation-world/national/article233381437.html>

Clearfield Progress-News: 'Tis the season for West Nile Virus

http://www.theprogressnews.com/health/tis-the-season-for-west-nile-virus/article_d6ec172a-b9b5-5f4b-b8ea-ddebc2118438.html

Waste

New Castle News: City Council asked to resolve recycling woes

https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/local_news/city-council-asked-to-resolve-recycling-woes/article_2bcfae4-ba29-524e-9f3c-7845412d6665.html

WITF/NPR: Plastics Or People? At Least 1 Of Them Has To Change To Clean Up Our Mess
https://www.npr.org/2019/07/30/744099949/plastics-or-people-at-least-1-of-them-has-to-change-to-clean-up-our-mess?_ga=2.118542159.736258556.1564579816-255332124.1532091830

Centre Daily Times: Delaware's governor signs plastic bag ban into law
<https://www.centredaily.com/news/politics-government/national-politics/article233288702.html>

Centre County Gazette: Centre Region COG reviews preliminary 2020 budget proposals; may transfer recycling program
<http://www.statecollege.com/news/local-news/centre-region-cog-reviews-preliminary-2020-budget-proposals,1480691/>

NPR.org: Recycling and the mob: 1987 garbage barge sparked recycling movement
<https://www.npr.org/2019/08/01/747170708/recycling-and-the-mob>

Water

Bucks County Courier Times: 'Deeply troubling': Lawmakers react to PFAS investigation
<https://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/20190801/deeply-troubling-lawmakers-react-to-pfas-investigation>

Bucks County Courier Times: MAP: Chemical contamination in Park Creek, Little Neshaminy
<https://www.buckscountycouriertimes.com/news/20190731/map-chemical-contamination-in-park-creek-little-neshaminy>

The Intelligencer: 'Deeply troubling': Lawmakers react to PFAS investigation
<https://www.theintell.com/news/20190801/deeply-troubling-lawmakers-react-to-pfas-investigation>

Times Leader: Municipalities asked to weigh in on Lehman Township stormwater program agreement
<https://www.timesleader.com/news/751367/municipalities-asked-to-weigh-in-on-lehman-township-stormwater-program-agreement>

WICU-TV: Lead Level Problem Appears to be Fixed at Erie School
<https://www.erienewsnow.com/story/40861187/lead-level-problem-appears-to-be-fixed-at-erie-school>

Erie Times: Initial tests show water problems fixed at Erie school
<https://www.goerie.com/news/20190731/initial-tests-show-water-problems-fixed-at-erie-school>

Meadville Tribune: Meadville area authority approves waterline replacement projects
https://www.meadvilletribune.com/news/meadville-area-authority-approves-waterline-replacement-projects/article_7ce56906-b3f8-11e9-89e5-6b972cbf52bc.html

The Derrick: \$2 million investment planned for Clarion County projects
https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/million-investment-planned-for-clarion-county-projects/article_7ae9e16c-7482-5b60-9e84-a451976d7ad5.html

The Derrick: Clarion County residents could receive tax break

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/clarion-county-residents-could-receive-tax-break/article_15143376-3f3f-5883-9972-ca061d2b82cf.html

Indian Gazette: Indiana Borough to begin smoke testing

https://www.indianagazette.com/news/indiana-borough-to-begin-smoke-testing/article_e77bfe10-8612-51a6-a9f8-73a5bef28e2a.html

Clarion News: County commissioners hear assessment of recent storms

https://www.theclarionnews.com/news/frontpage/article_90daca6c-b7b9-5842-b640-1b49a6d559d8.html

Lock Haven Express: Pa. needs to step up support for those working to clean up streams, rivers (Op-Ed)

<http://www.lockhaven.com/opinion/columns/2019/07/pa-needs-to-step-up-support-for-those-working-to-clean-up-streams-rivers/>

Clearfield Progress-News: Sandy Township street to close Monday for culvert pipe replacement

http://www.theprogressnews.com/progress_news/sandy-township-street-to-close-monday/article_c2193a22-af39-5bee-a624-a16132767f85.html

Renovo Record: City boat dock installation underway

<http://therecord-online.com/site/archives/53441>

Wyalusing Rocket-Courier: Laceyville continuing clean-up one year after flooding

<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/laceyville-continuing-clean-up-one-year-after-flooding/>

Tribune-Review: Heavy rains flood portions of Westmoreland County

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/heavy-rains-flood-westmoreland-county/>

Beaver County Times: Allegheny River lock work to cause delays

<https://www.timesonline.com/entertainmentlife/20190731/allegheny-river-lock-work-to-cause-delays>

Tribune-Review: Crews scale Harrison water tower for cleaning

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/crews-scale-harrison-water-tower-for-cleaning/>

Tribune-Review: Butler Street ramp to Highland Park Bridge to close for sewer repair

<https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-allegheny/butler-street-ramp-to-close-3-days/>

Latrobe Bulletin: LTMA likely to raise water rates

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/ltma-likely-to-raise-water-rates/article_fb752d46-9fb5-524d-a992-f9a204e3f11c.html

Latrobe Bulletin: DTMA doesn't act on Keystone trail/sewer project

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/dtma-doesn-t-act-on-keystone-trail-sewer-project/article_2b01b073-00d3-519b-8271-f74e55503652.html

Daily American: Ex-director Repak hired by JRA contractor

https://www.dailyamerican.com/ourtownjohnstown/news/ex-director-repak-hired-by-jra-contractor/article_94337cea-c90a-5d91-a2a3-b1e065918b85.html

Miscellaneous

WHYY: Pa. again pledges extra help to remove lead paint from Philly schools

<https://whyy.org/articles/pa-again-pledges-extra-help-to-remove-lead-paint-from-philly-schools/>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Gov. Wolf announces millions in funding to fix environmental hazards in Philly schools

<https://www.inquirer.com/education/lead-paint-philadelphia-toxic-city-governor-wolf-remediation-environmental-20190731.html>

Pennlive: Another really old turtle found in Pennsylvania

<https://www.pennlive.com/life/2019/08/another-really-old-turtle-found-in-pennsylvania.html>

York Dispatch: Columbia Gas will resume installing gas meters in York City

<https://www.yorkdispatch.com/story/news/local/2019/07/31/halt-gas-meters-historic-buildings-continues-but-just-now/1885317001/>

CBS21: Gas meter woes plague York City residents

<https://local21news.com/news/local/gas-meter-woes-plague-york-city-residents>

Reading Eagle: Reading fire melts chemical containers at company on Front and Washington streets

<https://www.readingeagle.com/news/article/front-and-washington-streets-closed-as-fire-cleanup-continues>

Reading Eagle: Rodale Institute's Field Day gives the public a chance to visit the 333-acre farm and learn about organic agriculture

<https://www.readingeagle.com/berks-country/article/shaping-the-food-system>

Muncy Luminary: Horse manure divides a community; Washington Township considers new diaper rule for horses on roadways

<http://muncyluminary.com/page/content.detail/id/571318/Horse-manure-divides-a-community.html?nav=5007>

Tribune-Review: Heavy rains flood portions of Westmoreland County

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/heavy-rains-flood-westmoreland-county/>

WESA: Remnants Of Houses Along Fifth Avenue Are Reminders Of A 1964 Landslide

<https://www.wesa.fm/post/remnants-houses-along-fifth-avenue-are-reminders-1964-landslide>

WESA: Into The Bog: Scientists Are Trying To Learn More About Unique Peatland Ecosystems

<https://www.wesa.fm/post/bog-scientists-are-trying-learn-more-about-unique-peatland-ecosystems>

Beaver County Times: Allegheny County open online portal for landslide info

<https://www.timesonline.com/news/20190731/allegheny-county-open-online-portal-for-landslide-info>

Tribune-Review: Emergency repair needed for Verona sink hole

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/emergency-repair-needed-for-verona-sink-hole/>

Post-Gazette: Lawn care limbo: Peduto fails to deliver on promised grass-cutting

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/editorials/2019/08/01/Bill-Peduto-City-Cuts-grass-cutting-Pittsburgh-promise-failure/stories/201908010022>