

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

Sunbury Daily Item: Officials: Restoration project on Valley tributaries will improve river health
https://www.dailyitem.com/news/officials-restoration-project-on-valley-tributaries-will-improve-river-health/article_84c1e298-ba44-48d3-8674-1a9543f17d4e.html

Mentions

Indiana Gazette: Environmentalists speak out against Key-Con consent decree
https://www.indianagazette.com/local_news/environmentalists-speak-out-against-key-con-consent-decree/article_139656d9-e989-4f2e-ae80-b1deecb02b8c.html

69 News: What's being done about data centers? Plenty, head of Pa. DEP tells Lehigh Valley summit
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/whats-being-done-about-data-centers-plenty-head-of-pa-dep-tells-lehigh-valley-summit/article_95e85898-6fae-4253-9c40-fd0a990a27d1.html

Climate Change

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: 'It's pretty widespread': Late freeze deals blow to fruit, other crops across Pa.
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/weather-news/2026/04/30/crop-damage-pa-freeze-weather-farming/stories/202604300014>

Philly Burbs: Pennsylvania winters are shorter. The change shows up in every county
<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/state/2026/04/30/pa-winter-length-climate-change/89872813007/>

Conservation and Recreation

WESA: Pa. wants homeowners to ditch their lawns for meadows — starting with free native plant kits
<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2026-04-29/pennsylvania-meadows-free-growing-kits>

Sunbury Daily Item: Smaller Hopewell Park pump track project back on target; original donors can request refunds
https://www.dailyitem.com/news/smaller-hopewell-park-pump-track-project-back-on-target-original-donors-can-request-refunds/article_8e23f08e-97cd-4e30-bb10-e98e597bdb46.html

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: taking some time to appreciate ravens
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2026/04/taking-some-time-to-appreciate-ravens/>

Data Centers

Heatmap: Inside Josh Shapiro's Attempt to Navigate the Data Center Backlash

<https://heatmap.news/politics/shapiro-amazon-emails>

Observer-Reporter: South Strabane residents call for quick vote on data center ordinance

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2026/apr/30/south-strabane-residents-call-for-quick-vote-on-data-center-ordinance/>

Lancaster Online: Rise of data centers, energy worries expected to boost results of Lancaster County's Armstrong World Industries

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/rise-of-data-centers-energy-worries-expected-to-boost-results-of-lancaster-countys-armstrong-world/article_da01e21d-c552-48b7-ae21-6f6604bcc181.html

Patch.com: Another Montco Municipality Considers Ordinance To Regulate Data Centers

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/lansdale/towamencin-considers-ordinance-regulate-data-center-wednesday>

Energy

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Carlos Roa: Fueling war or powering peace?

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/guest-columns/2026/04/30/fossil-fuels-solar-wind-renewable-risk-national-security-carlos-roa/stories/202604250002>

Pittsburgh Business Times: PJM Interconnection reviews 811 power projects as grid operator shifts to new approval model

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/04/29/pjm-interconnection-grid-operator-shift.html>

KDKA: Duquesne Light reflects on lessons learned one year after deadly storm knocked out power for days

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/duquesne-light-lessons-learned-storm-power-outage/>

Bradford Era: McKean County commissioners defer solar ordinance pending review of public feedback

<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/04/29/mckean-county-commissioners-defer-solar-ordinance-pending-review-of-public-feedback/>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: As AI drives energy demand, PJM eyes hundreds of new power projects, including a potential first-ever nuclear fusion plant

<https://www.inquirer.com/business/energy/pjm-electrical-grid-operator-new-projects-20260429.html>

Sunbury Daily Item: Two solar projects planned for 323 acres in Freeburg

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/two-solar-projects-planned-for-323-acres-in-freeburg/article_9210c203-5d1b-4ab6-b62e-764043624d9b.html

PFAS

WHYY: Pennsylvania lawmakers want to ban products like playmats, infant bedding that contain toxic PFAS chemicals

<https://whyy.org/articles/pennsylvania-legislation-banning-pfas-products/>

Waste

NorthcentralPA.com: Fire chief addresses open burning complaints in Lock Haven

www.northcentralpa.com/community/fire-chief-addresses-burning-complaints/article_b711f664-2835-4c9f-9889-651d8094e1b3.html

Water

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Talen Energy shares details on Spillway Upgrade Project

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2026/04/talen-energy-shares-details-on-spillway-upgrade-project/>