

*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

Reading Eagle: Private lake in northern Berks threatened by DEP mandate

<https://www.readingeagle.com/2025/08/04/private-lake-in-northern-berks-threatened-by-dep-mandate/>

DEP Intern and Biologist Discover Freshwater Jellyfish in Presque Isle Marina

https://www.recordargusnews.com/news/update-feds-penn-dot-officially-close-shenango-river-between-riverside-park-kidds-mill/article_95d2d47f-360f-4b9d-89cc-73fea4faa3c6.html

Mentions

Reading Eagle: DEP issues air quality warning for central, eastern PA

<https://www.readingeagle.com/2025/08/04/dep-issues-air-quality-warning-for-central-eastern-pa/>

Daily Local News: DEP issues air quality warning for central, eastern PA

<https://www.dailylocal.com/2025/08/04/dep-issues-air-quality-warning-for-central-eastern-pa/>

Butler Eagle: Cranberry Township residents raise concerns after receiving letter about oil, gas development

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20250805/cranberry-township-residents-raise-concerns-after-receiving-letter-about-oil-gas-development/?>

Air

WJAC: Local senator continues push to eliminate emissions testing statewide

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/local-senator-continues-push-to-eliminate-emissions-testing-statewide#>

Altoona Mirror: Huntingdon, Centre counties under air quality warnings due to wildfires

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2025/08/huntingdon-centre-wildfires-air-quality-warning/>

Lancaster Online: Air Quality alert issued for Central Pa. Tuesday

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/air-quality-alert-issued-for-central-pa-tuesday/article_09c4aa09-68fb-430e-80e7-7f884cc78693.html

PhillyBurbs: Air quality alert from wildfire smoke continues for Bucks County Tuesday

<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/local/2025/08/05/canadian-wildfire-smoke-keeps-air-quality-alert-active-in-bucks-county-pa-philadelphia/85523455007/?tbref=hp>

Inquirer: Air-quality issues from Canadian wildfire smoke will linger another day around Philly
<https://www.inquirer.com/weather/canadian-wildfire-smoke-air-quality-philadelphia-20250804.html>

Centre Daily Times: Air quality alert issued for Centre County due to smoke from Canadian wildfires
https://www.centredaily.com/news/weather-news/article311586100.html#storylink=mainstage_lead

The Daily Item: Code Orange Air Quality alert called for Tuesday
https://www.dailyitem.com/news/code-orange-air-quality-alert-called-for-tuesday/article_97357bf7-0b67-4bf4-85fa-aa3ac07c16be.html

Erie Times: Canadian wildfires are causing bad air quality in Erie. How to stay safe
<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/local/2025/08/04/poor-air-quality-erie-pa-canadian-wildfires/85506584007/?tbref=hp>

WBRE: DEP issues air quality warning for several NEPA counties
<https://www.2822news.com/news/dep-issues-air-quality-warning-for-several-nepa-counties/>

Republican Herald: DEP extends health warnings due to Canadian wildfires
<https://www.republicanherald.com/2025/08/04/dep-extends-health-warnings-due-to-canadian-wildfires/>

WFMZ 69: Code Orange Alert issued for region Tuesday due to Canadian wildfire smoke
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/code-orange-alert-issued-for-region-tuesday-due-to-canadian-wildfire-smoke/article_1e313dd7-4780-41d2-a063-ba88ed5ac42b.html

Tri-County Independent: Canadian wildfire smoke sparks air quality alert for Poconos
<https://www.tricountyindependent.com/story/news/environment/2025/08/05/canadian-wildfire-smoke-air-quality-alert-poconos/85516073007/>

Lehigh Valley News: Near-surface smoke from Canadian wildfires prompts air quality alert for Lehigh Valley
<https://www.lehighvalleynews.com/environment-science/near-surface-smoke-from-canadian-wildfires-prompts-air-quality-alert-for-lehigh-valley>

Climate Change

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: M. Granger Morgan: The Trump administration makes sure we don't know about the climate
<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/insight/2025/08/03/trump-ignorance-climate-change-funding-cuts-granger-morgan-insight/stories/202508030072>

WESA: Allegheny County residents can share thoughts on new climate action plan
<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2025-08-05/allegheny-county-climate-action-feedback>

Allegheny Front: What you need to know about EPA's effort to dump legal underpinning of climate rules
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/epa-endangerement-finding-climate-change/>

Public Source: Is this really the muggiest summer in Pittsburgh history? Here's the data.
<https://www.publicsource.org/pittsburgh-summer-temperatures-humidity-trend-higher-2025/>

Conservation and Recreation

Allegheny Front: A Hike Through the Incomparable Dolly Sods Wilderness
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/a-hike-through-the-incomparable-dolly-sods-wilderness/>

Sun Gazette: Will allowing hunting on Sundays save hunting?
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2025/08/will-allowing-hunting-on-sundays-save-hunting/>

Record-Argus: Feds, PennDOT officially close Shenango River between Riverside Park, Kidds Mill
https://www.recordargusnews.com/news/update-feds-pennDOT-officially-close-shenango-river-between-riverside-park-kidds-mill/article_95d2d47f-360f-4b9d-89cc-73fea4faa3c6.html

WBRE: 163rd annual Wayne County Fair is underway
<https://www.2822news.com/news/163rd-annual-wayne-county-fair-is-underway/>

WNEP: Riverside Park in Tunkhannock unveils new hours
<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/wyoming-county/new-hours-for-tunkhannocks-riverside-park-river-street-wyoming-county-mayor-stacy-huber-police/523-ac97baf8-3307-4ebc-80fc-570090ed3a18?tbref=hp>

Energy

NextGenNewsroom: Could AI drive up your electric bill?
<https://www.nextgenerationnewsroom.org/news/could-ai-drive-up-your-electric-bill>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Terry L. Headley: America needs more coal-fired energy plants, or the future will be dark
<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/op-ed/2025/08/05/coal-fired-power-plants-need-capacity-blackouts-terry-headley/stories/202508050006>

Allegheny Front: What's behind higher electricity prices? The regional grid explained.
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pjm-electrical-grid-energy-prices-renewables-challenges/>

Axios: Wind farm's boost could help with AI energy needs
<https://www.axios.com/local/pittsburgh/2025/08/04/wind-farm-upgrades-ai-energy-demand>

Pennsylvania Capital-Star: Pa. and other states scramble to complete renewable energy projects before tax credits expire
<https://penncapital-star.com/energy-environment/pa-and-other-states-scramble-to-complete-renewable-energy-projects-before-tax-credits-expire/>

PFAS

Philadelphia Business Journal: DuPont, spinoffs reach \$2B settlement over 'forever chemicals' at NJ sites, including 2 in South Jersey

<https://www.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/news/2025/08/04/dupont-chemours-corteva-forever-chemicals.html>

Radiation Protection

Lancaster Online: Live near a nuclear plant? Here's where to get free potassium iodide tablets

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/live-near-a-nuclear-plant-heres-where-to-get-free-potassium-iodide-tablets/article_2c28c823-bb6c-450e-b6f3-8f07f80fa54c.html

The Mercury: Free Potassium Iodide (KI) tablets offered to residents near nuclear plant

<https://www.pottsmmerc.com/2025/08/05/free-potassium-iodide-ki-tablets-offered-to-residents-near-nuclear-plant/>

Vector Management

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Mosquitoes with West Nile virus spread to North Side as Allegheny County plans more spraying

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/health/2025/08/04/west-nile-virus-pittsburgh-1/stories/202508040039>

Waste

Latrobe Bulletin: Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Awards \$500 to Westmoreland County Conservation District – winner of PA Association of Conservation Districts Trash Challenge

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/local/keep-pennsylvania-beautiful-awards-500-to-westmoreland-county-conservation-district-winner-of-pa-association-of/article_727fc2ea-75f7-4966-95bd-7bcbf75dc227.html

Newcastle News: Composting helps the planet. This is how to do it, no matter where you live

https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/national/composting-helps-the-planet-this-is-how-to-do-it-no-matter-where-you-live/article_5b54a2cc-738f-5ac6-8284-759551fd89c3.html

Water

Daily American: Allegany County designated disaster area; Somerset County eligible for assistance

<https://www.dailyamerican.com/story/news/local/2025/08/05/usda-designates-natural-disaster-areas-eligible-for-assistance-somerset-county-pa-allegany-maryland/85507277007/>

Observer-Reporter: Avella area boil water advisory in effect through Thursday

https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local_news/2025/aug/05/avella-area-boil-water-advisory-in-effect-through-thursday/

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Some parts of the Pittsburgh area saw intense rainfall in July. So why was it dry in my backyard?

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/weather-news/2025/08/04/pittsburgh-weather-july-rain/stories/202508040057>

Pittsburgh Business Journal: \$190 million boost for Pittsburgh waterways renovation includes Montgomery Lock and Dam project

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2025/08/04/montgomery-lock-dam-construction-project.html>

Lancaster Farming: Dairy Desserts Help Fund Dairy Farm Conservation

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/dairy/dairy-desserts-help-fund-dairy-farm-conservation/article_df4c8a01-1927-48ed-bfb8-0e1aa2a8dc25.html

Delaware Currents: Is the Upper Delaware River ready for a Texas-like flood?

<https://delawarecurrents.org/2025/08/04/is-the-upper-delaware-river-ready-for-a-texas-like-flood/>

Sun Gazette: Extensive network of outfalls studied, mapped via collaborative, proactive Williamsport stormwater project

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2025/08/extensive-network-of-outfalls-studied-mapped-via-collaborative-proactive-williamsport-stormwater-project/>

Republican Herald: Proposed state Senate bill to fast track data centers, limit local zoning

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2025/08/03/proposed-state-senate-bill-to-fast-track-data-centers-limit-local-zoning/>

Miscellaneous

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Michael Coren: Science isn't enough. Only spiritual transformation can save the environment

<https://www.post-gazette.com/opinion/op-ed/2025/08/05/joanna-macy-climate-environment-buddhism-teaching-michael-coren/stories/202508050028>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Public meetings scheduled for discussion of bringing Three Mile Island plant back on line

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/powersource/2025/08/03/three-mile-island-nuclear-power-public-meetings-pennsylvania/stories/202508030079>

WJAC: New gas station to open in Emporium after closures leave limited options

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/new-gas-station-to-open-in-emporium-after-closures-leave-limited-options#>

Central Penn Business Journal: I-78/I-81 Corridor commercial real estate activity picking up

<https://www.cpbj.com/i-78-i-81-corridor-commercial-real-estate-activity-picking-up/>

The Progress: State announces \$41 million available to support rail freight infrastructure and safety

https://www.theprogressnews.com/news/local/state-announces-41-million-available-to-support-rail-freight-infrastructure-and-safety/article_784e294f-d2f9-4586-9064-cd8f3c7c63ae.html

Morning Times: 'Serious deterioration' on Village of Owego culvert under I-86

https://www.morning-times.com/news/article_30b12f17-b88b-4904-8c1e-b7ede50a80b6.html

Times leader: Luzerne County proceeding with installation of an automated weather observation system at the Wyoming Valley Airport

<https://www.timesleader.com/news/1711577/luzerne-county-proceeding-with-installation-of-an-automated-weather-observation-system-at-the-wyoming-valley-airport>

Times Leader: Legislative Roundup: State announces \$41M to support rail freight infrastructure and safety

<https://www.timesleader.com/news/1711893/legislative-roundup-state-announces-41m-to-support-rail-freight-infrastructure-and-safety>