

*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

Lancaster Farming: Relaunch Certification Can Benefit Pennsylvania Farmers Dedicated to Conservation

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/conservation/relaunched-certification-can-benefit-pennsylvania-farmers-dedicated-to-conservation/article_3de8e4f7-870c-437b-92da-15abb7931985.html

Mentions

Daily Courier: Donegal area public encouraged to attend Aug. 20 DEP hearing

https://www.dailycourier.com/news/donegal-area-public-encouraged-to-attend-aug-20-dep-hearing/article_801f3908-3cd1-425c-963a-3f7e91e851d8.html

Clairton Coke Works Plant Explosion

Mon Valley Independent: Explosion sparked by coke oven gas igniting

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2025/08/13/explosion-sparked-by-coke-oven-gas-igniting/>

Mon Valley Independent: Clairton Coke Works explosion is moment of calm in partisan storm

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2025/08/13/clairton-coke-works-explosion-is-moment-of-calm-in-partisan-storm/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Search for answers begins after deadly blast rips through Clairton Coke Works

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/career-workplace/2025/08/12/us-steel-clairton-coke-works-shapiro/stories/202508120092>

Pittsburgh Business Times: U.S. Steel CEO affirms commitment to Clairton Coke Works after deadly blast

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2025/08/12/united-states-steel-corp-clairton-works-ceo.html>

WTAE: Questions linger on worker safety after plant explosion, US Steel says it's first priority

<https://www.wtae.com/article/clairton-plant-explosion-safety-questions/65671341>

WPXI: Expert calls for transparency in deadly explosion investigation and environmental impacts

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/expert-calls-transparency-deadly-explosion-investigation-environmental-impacts/SNUQNVWRY5GYHDKUZS7IL3LD64/>

WPXI: U.S. Steel officials release details about moments leading up to Clairton plant explosion

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/us-steel-officials-release-details-about-moments-leading-up-clairton-plant-explosion/L7AVTEW XFZG4JJER4QKCUFIKE/>

Allegheny Front: Clairton Coke Works, site of Monday's explosion, has a history of problems
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/us-steel-clairton-coke-works-explosion-violations/>

Allegheny Front: U.S. Steel: Workers were preparing maintenance job before Clairton Coke Works explosion
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/us-steel-clairton-coke-works-explosion-maintenance/>

Tribune-Review: Clairton Coke Works employees stay focused despite deadly blast
<https://triblive.com/business/clairton-coke-works-employees-stay-focused-despite-deadly-blast/>

Tribune-Review: Here are 5 things to know about Clairton Coke Works explosion
<https://triblive.com/local/here-are-5-things-to-know-about-clairton-coke-works-explosion/>

Axios: U.S. Steel Clairton plant under scrutiny after deadly blast
<https://www.axios.com/local/pittsburgh/2025/08/13/clairton-coke-works-explosion-safety-scrutiny>

Upper Makefield Pipeline

Bucks County Herald: Sunoco to inspect more "anomalies" in pipeline that leaked in Upper Makefield
https://www.buckscountyherald.com/news/sunoco-to-inspect-more-anomalies-in-pipeline-that-leaked-in-upper-makefield/article_3432b92d-1e17-415a-b103-a42bfebfa0ae.html

Air

Public Source: In Clairton, officials say the air is normal, but residents, advocates are wary
<https://www.publicsource.org/allegheny-county-officials-clear-air-quality-risks-after-clairton-explosion/>

LehighValleyNews: Allentown gets \$1.5 million to address transportation safety, carbon emissions
<https://www.lehighvalleynews.com/allentown/allentown-gets-1-5-million-to-address-transportation-safety-carbon-emissions>

Climate Change

Tribune-Review: Pittsburgh region sees driest start to an August since late 1800s
<https://triblive.com/local/regional/pittsburgh-region-sees-driest-start-to-an-august-since-late-1800s/>

CBS3: Flood watch in effect for Philadelphia region as heat, humidity and storms make comeback
<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/flood-watch-philadelphia-weather-heat-humidity-storms/>

Conservation and Recreation

WJAC: 'A comedy of errors:' Costly repairs plague local water recreation group

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/a-comedy-of-errors-costly-repairs-plague-local-water-recreation-group#>

WNEP: Susquehanna County celebrates 167 years of Harford Fair fun

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/susquehanna-county-celebrates-167-years-of-harford-fair-fun/ar-AA1KmUlp?ocid=BingNewsSerp>

Tri-County Independent: The sunflower town: Girard has a new attraction for summer visitors

<https://www.tricountyindependent.com/story/news/local/2025/08/13/sunflower-town-girard-pa-battles-farm-new-attraction-summer-visitors/85622426007/>

Erie Times: The sunflowers boom: Bright yellow fields are growing tourism in Girard

<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/local/2025/08/13/sunflower-town-girard-pa-battles-farm-new-attraction-summer-visitors/85622426007/>

Corry Journal: Woodland Association to present program on insects, invasive species

https://www.thecorryjournal.com/news/article_2ea900c9-89b0-4477-b0b9-8ab270069c05.html

Huntingdon Daily News: Corps announces campgrounds to reopen

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/corps-announces-campgrounds-to-reopen/article_663eca84-263f-4f85-b44b-65a46e345047.html

Gettysburg Times: Land preservation continues at Hanover Shoe Farms

https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/local/article_8043497e-e551-4061-ac06-f54d4cc49c44.html

Bucks County Herald: Tinicum Conservancy, Camp Galil cultivate budding environmental stewards

https://www.buckscountyherald.com/news/tinicum-conservancy-camp-galil-cultivate-budding-environmental-stewards/article_55a2fc9c-0e07-4242-841b-54712f5f1d12.html

Energy

Times Leader: Senate hearing discusses benefits, drawbacks of establishing data centers in Pennsylvania

<https://www.timesleader.com/news/1713047/senate-hearing-discusses-benefits-drawbacks-of-establishing-data-centers-in-pennsylvania>

Scranton Times: Developer buys Highway Auto junkyard in Archbald for data centers

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2025/08/12/developer-buys-highway-auto-junkyard-in-archbald-for-data-centers/>

WOLF 56: Archbald Data Center Hearing leaves residents with more questions than answers

<https://fox56.com/news/local/archbald-data-center-hearing-leaves-residents-with-more-questions-than-answers>

Meadville Tribune: What Trump's solar crackdown could mean for Pennsylvania energy bills

https://www.meadvilletribune.com/pennsylvania/news/what-trump-s-solar-crackdown-could-mean-for-pennsylvania-energy-bills/article_40ae8d73-f57b-5262-8731-b013a47d37df.html

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Trump's call for AI investment shouldn't ignore the burdens that technology places on people

<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/commentary/trump-ai-investment-energy-consumption-high-utility-bills-20250813.html>

My Chesco.com: Pennsylvania DEP Offers Grants to Help Small Businesses Cut Energy Costs and Pollution

<https://www.mychesco.com/a/news/business/small-business/pennsylvania-dep-offers-grants-to-help-small-businesses-cut-energy-costs-and-pollution/>

Levittown Now: \$500 Grants Available For PECO Customers Through New Relief Fund

<https://levittownnow.com/2025/08/13/500-grants-available-for-peco-customers-through-new-relief-fund/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Pennlive: Zombie hotel stands in the way of development in Cumberland County, supervisor says

<https://www.pennlive.com/news/2025/08/zombie-hotel-stands-in-the-way-of-miracle-mile-development-middlesex-supervisor-says.html>

Vector Management

Philly Burbs: West Nile virus case likely detected in Bucks County. What to know about symptoms

<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/local/2025/08/12/west-nile-virus-symptoms-headache-body-aches-vomiting-skin-rashes-cdc-bucks-county-case/85614976007/>

Waste

Mon Valley Independent: Forward Twp. contracts with Pro Waste Services to handle garbage pick-up

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2025/08/13/forward-twp-contracts-with-pro-waste-services-to-handle-garbage-pick-up/>

Tribune-Review: U.S. Rep. Summer Lee tours creek near Yukon hazardous waste landfill at request of concerned residents

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/u-s-rep-summer-lee-tours-creek-near-yukon-hazardous-waste-landfill-at-request-of-concerned-residents/>

Water

KDKA: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission holding public hearings about Pittsburgh Water rate increase proposals

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/pittsburgh-water-public-hearing-utility-commission-rate-increases/>

KDKA: Cranberry Township asking people to conserve water amid dry stretch of weather in the Pittsburgh area

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/cranberry-township-water-conservation-dry-stretch-weather-pittsburgh/>

WESA: Pa. water supply could be strained by new data centers, freshwater overseers warn

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2025-08-13/pa-water-supply-data-centers>

Butler Eagle: Cranberry Township requests voluntary water use reduction

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20250812/cranberry-township-requests-voluntarily-water-use-reduction/>

The Derrick: Contract approved to fix sinkhole at Webco in Oil City

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/contract-approved-to-fix-sinkhole-at-webco-in-oil-city/article_b74be69f-fcda-422a-a45c-5c9feb7140fc.html

WJET-TV: Beach 11 closed to swimming for rest of the season marking third straight year

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/beach-11-closed-to-swimming-for-rest-of-the-season-marking-third-straight-year/>

Bucks County Herald: Despite legal threats, Tincum awards Headquarters Road bridge contract

https://www.buckscountyherald.com/news/despite-legal-threats-tincum-awards-headquarters-road-bridge-contract/article_bedf5407-6540-454f-b3a8-9b10d83e1e81.html

Levittown Now: Falls Twp. Seeks Public Comment On Wastewater Plan Update

<https://levittownnow.com/2025/08/13/falls-twp-seeks-public-comment-on-wastewater-plan-update/>

Miscellaneous

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: It finally rained in Pittsburgh, ending a record dry stretch. What's next in the forecast?

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/weather-news/2025/08/13/pittsburgh-weather-forecast-aug-13/stories/202508130036>

KDKA: "Flesh-eating" bacteria risk increasing as ocean temperatures rise

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/flesh-eating-bacteria-vibrio-vulnificus-florida/>

Morning Call: When will construction on Riverside Drive be finished?

<https://www.mcall.com/2025/08/13/new-traffic-controls-timetable-set-for-riverside-drive-connecting-hamilton-street-to-whitehall-township/>

Republican Herald: Lawmakers, advocacy group tout Big Beautiful Bill at Farm Store

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2025/08/12/lawmakers-advocacy-group-tout-big-beautiful-bill-at-farm-store/>

Bradford Era: Paid leave for climate disasters?

<https://www.bradfordera.com/2025/08/12/paid-leave-climate-disasters/>

