

*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

WITF: Pennsylvania DEP Releases 2026 Water Quality Assessment for Rivers, Streams and Lakes
<https://www.witf.org/2026/08/04/pennsylvania-dep-releases-2026-water-quality-assessment-for-rivers-streams-and-lakes/>

Penn Capital-Star: Environmental group claims DEP is falling behind reporting on underground mining damages in Pa.
<https://penncapital-star.com/energy-environment/environmental-group-claims-dep-is-falling-behind-reporting-on-underground-mining-damages-in-pa/>

PA Environment Digest: Middle Susquehanna RiverKeeper Blog: Nearly 1 Year Since Eureka Resources Oil & Gas Wastewater Spill, Company Sold Its Operations, Wastewater Still At All 3 Facilities
<https://paenvironmentdaily.blogspot.com/2026/08/middle-susquehanna-riverkeeper-blog.html>

Conservation and Recreation

TribLive: Ligonier Township farmland protected ‘for generations’
<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/ligonier-township-farmland-protected-for-generations/>

NorthcentralPA.com: Save the date for Pine Creek Rail Trail’s Trail of the Year celebration
https://www.northcentralpa.com/community/save-the-date-for-pine-creek-rail-trail-s-trail-of-the-year-celebration/article_55eafe3d-89fa-474b-95e2-4bed16a071ba.html

Data Centers

TribLive: Voice of Westmoreland members bring data center concerns to New Kensington council
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/voice-of-westmoreland-members-bring-data-center-concerns-to-new-kensington-council/>

Public Source: How ICE and a data center turned a small Pittsburgh suburb into a civic battleground
<https://www.publicsource.org/how-ice-and-a-data-center-turned-a-small-pittsburgh-suburb-into-a-civic-battleground/>

WBRE: \$6B data center plan unveiled in Wayne County
<https://www.2822news.com/news/data-centers/6b-data-center-plan-unveiled-in-wayne-county/>

WNEP: Proposal made to study health impact of Lackawanna County's potential data centers, power plants

<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/lackawanna-county/lackawanna-county-data-centers-commissioner-bill-gaughan-empower-analytics-group-health-study/523-986cba63-fd74-496a-aae6-ba6a0bd53cd3>

Scranton Times: Public comment looms for Wildcat Ridge Data Center Campus in Archbald
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/08/03/public-comment-looms-for-wildcat-ridge-data-center-campus-in-archbald/>

Scranton Times: County receives \$165,000 proposal for data center health-impact study
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/08/03/county-receives-165000-proposal-for-data-center-health-impact-study/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: A shared community mindset: Data centers — not in my backyard
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/08/a-shared-community-mindset-data-centers-not-in-my-backyard/>

NorthcentralPA.com: 'Betrayed': Community regrouping after neighbors yield to data center developer
https://www.northcentralpa.com/business/betrayed-community-regrouping-after-neighbors-yield-to-data-center-developer/article_2761d929-d6fa-4bb7-93fa-2cc9be9968bd.html

Energy

Times News: Penn Forest hears solar challenge
<https://www.tnonline.com/20260803/penn-forest-hears-solar-challenge/>

Pennlive: Pa. small towns set to get latest wave of federal funding for EV chargers
<https://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2026/08/pennsylvania-ev-chargers-environment-federal-funding/>

Vector Management

TribLive: Fetterman, McCormick joint bill aims to combat Spotted Lanternfly spread
<https://triblive.com/news/pennsylvania/fetterman-mccormick-joint-bill-aims-to-combat-spotted-lanternfly-spread/>

WJAC: Rare Tick Virus Is 'Just the Tip of the Iceberg,' Infectious Disease Expert Says
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/rare-tick-virus-is-just-the-tip-of-the-iceberg-infectious-disease-expert-says>

The Sentinel: Mosquito sample tests positive for West Nile virus in Silver Spring Township
https://cumberlink.com/news/local/article_d5e063ce-b5ae-4754-8557-e977b18f0302.html

Waste

Standard Speaker: Shenandoah unveils plan to modernize aging sewer treatment plant

<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2026/08/03/shenandoah-unveils-plan-to-modernize-aging-sewer-treatment-plant/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Plastics becoming a major threat in Susquehanna according to survey by experts and river users

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/outdoors/2026/08/plastics-becoming-a-major-threat-in-susquehanna-according-to-survey-by-experts-and-river-users/>

Water

WTAE: Point State Park fountain temporarily out of service for algal bloom cleaning

<https://www.wtae.com/article/point-state-park-fountain-temporarily-out-of-service-algal-bloom/73338287>

KDKA: Residents of Butler County community say they "don't trust" their water amid repeated boil water advisories

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/butler-county-sandy-hills-estates-water-quality/>

KDKA: Upgrades coming to the Parkway East "bathtub" to help alleviate flooding concerns

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/penndot-parkway-east-bathtub-flooding-project/>

WFMZ: Recent rainfall gives Lehigh Valley renewed hope for crops; But farmers say the season's far from over

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/lehigh-county/allentown-area/recent-rainfall-gives-lehigh-valley-renewed-hope-for-crops-but-farmers-say-the-seasons-far/article_9863dfb2-2c27-4f7c-870d-20314feff085.html

Miscellaneous

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Pittsburgh-area company found a better way to track African wildlife 24/7

<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/goodness/2026/08/04/pixcams-pix-african-cams-ai-pittsburgh-poachers-black-rhino/stories/202607290052>

Scranton Times: Scranton still working on creating regulations for data centers, kratom

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/08/03/scranton-still-working-on-creating-regulations-for-data-centers-kratom/>

Citizens Voice: Luzerne County gets \$100K for approving tax break on Nanticoke warehouse development

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2026/08/03/luzerne-county-gets-100k-for-approving-tax-break-on-nanticoke-warehouse-development/>