

*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 – Colleen Connolly; SERO – Stephanie Berardi; SCRO – John Repetz; SWRO – Lauren Camarda). If **Central Office** staff (and others outside of DEP) need access to these clips, please email me at kedeibert@pa.gov*

Top DEP Stories

Indiana Gazette: DEP provides funding toward mine reclamation in Brush Valley Township
https://www.indianagazette.com/local_news/dep-provides-funding-toward-mine-reclamation-in-brush-valley-township/article_fd077810-bda0-11ef-bda3-27530d981460.html

WNEP: DEP crews working to fill mine subsidence in Schuylkill County
<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/schuylkill-county/dep-crews-working-to-fill-mine-subsidence-in-schuylkill-county-mahanoy-township-city-environmental-protection/523-4431a443-ae27-4a9c-afcf-e209c295ea1e>

Mentions

Scranton Times: Nearly \$7M in federal funds to reclaim mine land in Dickson City, Blakely
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2024/12/18/nearly-7m-in-federal-funds-to-reclaim-mine-land-in-dickson-city-blakely/>

East Palestine Train Derailment

Union Progress: Deluzio focuses on safety as he and Sen. Markey introduce a new rail bill
<https://www.unionprogress.com/2024/12/18/deluzio-focuses-on-safety-as-he-and-sen-markey-introduce-a-new-rail-bill/>

Avian Influenza

Erie Times: What is bird flu and are you at risk?
<https://www.goerie.com/story/news/2024/12/19/what-is-bird-flu-what-to-look-for-and-avoid/77082217007/>

Air

Philadelphia Inquirer: How bad is air quality in underground SEPTA stations?
<https://www.inquirer.com/transportation/inq2/septa-pollution-study-workers-villanova-20241219.html>

Conservation and Recreation

Erie Times: Changes made with steelhead spawning, hatchery improvements underway to produce more fish

<https://www.goerie.com/story/sports/outdoors/2024/12/18/lake-erie-steelhead-spawning-underway-as-pfbc-retrofits-local-hatchery-fish-and-boat-commission/77071806007/>

KDKA: Here's how you can participate in the Pittsburgh Christmas bird count

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/audubon-christmas-bird-count-pittsburgh-details/>

Tribune Democrat: Outdoors | Free fly-tying classes currently forming for winter

https://www.tribdem.com/sports/outdoors-free-fly-tying-classes-currently-forming-for-winter/article_a0832200-bc0c-11ef-9c22-d7dc99d9a111.html

Pennlive: Capital Area Greenbelt in Harrisburg was born more than a century ago

<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2024/12/capital-area-greenbelt-in-harrisburg-was-born-more-than-a-century-ago-column.html>

Lancaster Online: Ephrata Twp. to open Quarry Lake to paddlers

https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/ephrata-twp-to-open-quarry-lake-to-paddlers/article_3b593c42-bd7f-11ef-ae5c-f39b377fd63a.html

Sunbury Daily Item: Flight 93 'resiliency' project to replace struggling Memorial tree grove moving forward, Park Service says

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/flight-93-resiliency-project-to-replace-struggling-memorial-tree-grove-moving-forward-park-service-says/article_5df2d08c-bcea-11ef-82df-43ac5a835b7a.html

Philadelphia Inquirer: \$100,000 an acre: Outbidding developers, taxpayers' \$21 million will make Crebilly Farm a park

<https://www.inquirer.com/real-estate/crebilly-farm-acme-property-funding-westtown-park-20241218.html>

Energy

Carlisle Sentinel: Cumberland County, two boroughs join solar co-op to help homeowners

https://cumberlink.com/news/local/cumberland-county-two-boroughs-join-solar-co-op/article_7e89e8fa-bbda-11ef-9eec-3f0c50d824e4.html

Sayre Morning Times: Wysox solar project obtains county planning board approval

https://www.morning-times.com/news/article_2815ef44-f035-5fd8-8dc0-984411a28dcf.html

Mining

Standard Speaker: Sinkhole in Mahanoy Twp. linked to mines

<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2024/12/18/sinkhole-in-mahanoy-twp-linked-to-mines/>

Oil and Gas

The Daily American: Why Mostoller's Fuel & Food along Stoystown Road is now a Martin General Store
<https://www.dailyamerican.com/story/news/local/2024/12/18/somerset-pa-martin-oil-acquires-mostollers-fuel-food/77065214007/>

WPXI: Westmoreland County nursing home evacuated after report of gas leak
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/westmoreland-county-nursing-home-evacuated-after-report-gas-leak/7VP3PZX4EBGTVAUV3DYJIPELOU/>

Beaver County Radio: Columbia Gas is offering tips to reduce costs of heating, to stay safe, and to stay warm this winter
<https://beavercountyradio.com/news/columbia-gas-is-offering-tips-to-reduce-costs-of-heating-to-stay-safe-and-to-stay-warm-this-winter/>

PFAS

WHYY: 50 years of the Safe Drinking Water Act — from reducing waterborne diseases of the past to battling toxic 'forever chemicals' in the future
<https://whyy.org/articles/safe-drinking-water-act-50-years/>

Radiation Protection

LehighValleyLive: 5 Lehigh Valley school districts are at risk for radon, study says
<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/news/2024/12/5-lehigh-valley-school-districts-are-at-risk-for-radon-study-says.html>

Waste

KDKA: Uniontown posts list online naming over 600 residents who haven't paid \$500,000 worth of trash bills
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/uniontown-list-unpaid-trash-bills/>

KDKA Radio: Recycle your Christmas Tree at any Allegheny County Park
<https://www.audacy.com/kdkaradio/news/local/recycle-your-tree-at-any-allegheny-county-park>

Tribune-Review: MAWC opens talks to buy, run Gilpin water and sewer systems
<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/mawc-opens-talks-to-buy-run-gilpin-water-and-sewer-systems/>

Tribune-Review: Letter to the editor: Plastic burning puts steel communities at risk
<https://triblive.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-plastic-burning-puts-steel-communities-at-risk/>

Lebtown.com: Trash talk: A bird's eye view of the Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority

<https://lebtown.com/2024/12/19/trash-talk-a-birds-eye-view-of-the-greater-lebanon-refuse-authority/>

Water

Butler Eagle: Summit Twp. continues progress on sewer project

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20241219/summit-twp-continues-progress-on-sewer-project/>

Republican Herald: Homes and businesses coping with dirty water in Orwigsburg

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2024/12/18/homes-and-businesses-coping-with-dirty-water-in-orwigsburg/>

Times News: West Penn resident seeks resolution for dry well

<https://www.tnonline.com/20241218/west-penn-resident-seeks-resolution-for-dry-well/>

WTAE: Water main break leads to restrictions in Pittsburgh neighborhood

<https://www.wtae.com/article/water-main-break-leads-to-restrictions-in-pittsburgh-neighborhood/63234645>

WPXI: Water main break sends water running down street in Beechview

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/water-main-break-sends-water-running-down-street-beechview/TPDNIVQ4RVA2VAOYCFIWOE5W5Y/>

Tribune-Review: Fawn-Frazer Water Authority raises rates

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/fawn-frazer-water-authority-raises-rates/>

York Daily Record: Changes made with steelhead spawning, hatchery improvements underway to produce more fish

<https://www.ydr.com/story/sports/outdoors/2024/12/18/lake-erie-steelhead-spawning-underway-as-pfbc-retrofits-local-hatchery-fish-and-boat-commission/77071806007/>

Sunbury Daily Item: BVRA seeking FEMA funding for flood-damaged tennis courts

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/bvra-seeking-fema-funding-for-flood-damaged-tennis-courts/article_e86e0f5a-bd4f-11ef-9ade-bbf824f414d7.html

Towanda Daily Review: New Albany sets 2025 water, sewer rates

https://www.thedailyreview.com/news/local/new-albany-sets-2025-water-sewer-rates/article_c71c0fd4-bdac-11ef-ac07-972340947431.html

Wellsboro Gazette: Mansfield borough taxes, sewer fees to increase

https://www.tiogapublishing.com/the_wellsboro_mansfield_gazette/news/local/mansfield-borough-taxes-sewer-fees-to-increase/article_40e2f8ce-bbc2-11ef-b16e-977e27e06f0e.html

Westfield Free Press-Courier: Flood recovery efforts continue; committee forms for next disaster

https://www.tiogapublishing.com/free_press_courier/news/local/flood-recovery-efforts-continue-committee-forms-for-next-disaster/article_f30ce63e-bcaf-11ef-8173-8f82cdae980d.html

Wyalusing Rocket Courier: Stormwater Project at Jail Moves Forward

<https://www.rocket-courier.com/articles/stormwater-project-at-jail-moves-forward-2/>

WHYY: 50 years of the Safe Drinking Water Act — from reducing waterborne diseases of the past to battling toxic ‘forever chemicals’ in the future

<https://whyy.org/articles/safe-drinking-water-act-50-years/>

Miscellaneous

Beaver County Times: Over the Garden Gate: Choosing, purchasing, and growing seeds at home

<https://www.timesonline.com/story/lifestyle/home-garden/2024/12/18/choosing-purchasing-and-growing-seeds-at-home-beaver-county-pa/76971408007/>

The Mon Valley Independent: Monessen town hall addresses economic revitalization

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2024/12/19/monessen-town-hall-addresses-economic-revitalization/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: ‘People want views’: Developer proposes 12-story condo building across from Wholey’s market in the Strip District

<https://www.post-gazette.com/business/development/2024/12/19/strip-district-condominiums-francois-bitz-1700-penn-avenue-wholey-s/stories/202412190067>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: East Busway set to fully reopen Thursday, two months after Polish Hill landslide

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/transportation/2024/12/19/east-busway-polish-hill-landslide-october-prt/stories/202412190078>

Tribune Democrat: Airport receives FAA category upgrade, \$2.7 million in funds

https://www.tribdem.com/news/airport-receives-faa-category-upgrade-2-7-million-in-funds/article_f17a82ac-bd56-11ef-9797-9bd60d22fcb3.html

KDKA: Major entertainment project by PNC Park on schedule for completion by Opening Day 2025

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/major-entertainment-project-pnc-park-opening-day-2025/>

KDKA: Pittsburgh Regional Transit reporting internet outage impacting "several" systems

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/pittsburgh-regional-transit-internet-outage/>

WPXI: Fuel truck partially falls into bridge in Shenango

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/fuel-truck-partially-falls-into-bridge-shenango/KMLTSSRO3BCNROHJKO7JSCOETU/>

Tribune-Review: ‘Nothing more than a traffic jam’: Penn Township residents dread interchange, loss of quiet community

<https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/nothing-more-than-a-traffic-jam-penn-township-residents-dread-interchange-loss-of-quiet-community/>

Sunbury Daily Item: Fur Commission USA exec stands behind Sunbury fur farm

https://www.dailyitem.com/news/fur-commission-usa-exec-stands-behind-sunbury-fur-farm/article_48c544ca-bd6b-11ef-a937-4bbf5ab67faa.html