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Top DEP Stories

Indiana Gazette: Homer City power plant smokestacks imploded, marking the end of an era
https://www.indianagazette.com/news/local/homer-city-power-plant-smokestacks-imploded-marking-the-end-of-an-era/article_07022e5a-30a9-4357-b1e2-7c283c2bb7a6.html

Observer-Reporter: Mon Valley residents speak out against landfill permit request
<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2025/mar/24/mon-valley-residents-speak-out-against-landfill-permit-request/>

WESA/Spotlight: Federal money to plug Pa.'s dangerous wells unfrozen, but Trump uncertainty plagues contractors
<https://www.wesa.fm/politics-government/2025-03-23/pennsylvania-abandoned-well-plugging-federal-funding-freeze>

WVIA: Forever chemicals in the community: DEP says sewage from the 1980s threatens Columbia County's health
<https://www.wvia.org/news/local/2025-03-21/forever-chemicals-in-the-community-dep-says-sewage-from-the-1980s-threatens-columbia-countys-health>

WBRE: High levels of forever chemicals found in private well water in Columbia County
<https://www.pahomepage.com/top-news/high-levels-of-forever-chemicals-found-in-private-well-water-in-columbia-county/>

Mentions

WJAC: Corsa Coal announces closure of mines, impacting over 300 employees
<https://wjactv.com/newsletter-daily/corsa-coal-announces-mine-closings-impacting-over-300-employees#>

Allegheny Front: Report: Shell plant in Beaver County could be up for sale
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/report-shell-plant-beaver-county-for-sale/>

WJAC: Homer City power plant demolition draws crowds as smokestacks partially collapse
<https://wjactv.com/news/local/homer-city-power-plant-demolition-draws-crowds-as-smokestacks-partially-collapse#>

SpotlightPA: Customers of struggling rural water system may see new investments as temporary takeover begins
<https://www.spotlightpa.org/statecollege/2025/03/rock-spring-water-company-pennsylvania-american-public-utilities-commission-centre-county/>

ABC27: Customers of struggling rural water system may see new investments as temporary takeover begins

<https://www.abc27.com/spotlight-pa/customers-of-struggling-rural-water-system-may-see-new-investments-as-temporary-takeover-begins/amp/>

SpotlightPA: Federal money to plug Pa.'s dangerous wells is unfrozen, but Trump admin uncertainty plagues contractors

<https://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2025/03/pennsylvania-abandoned-well-plugging-federal-funding-freeze/>

WJAC: Corsa Coal announces mine closings impacting over 300 employees

<https://wjactv.com/newsletter-daily/corsa-coal-announces-mine-closings-impacting-over-300-employees>

Homer City Implosion

KDKA: Homer City Generating Station towers taken down in Indiana County

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/homer-city-generating-station-taken-down/>

WPXI: WATCH: Former coal-fired power plant in Indiana County demolished in planned implosion

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/watch-former-coal-fired-power-plant-indiana-county-demolished-planned-implosion/3DSDXXSFRJH35GF2CAFSCACDI/>

Tribune-Democrat: Homer City Power plant demolition begins to make way for natural gas infrastructure

https://www.tribdem.com/news/homer-city-power-plant-demolition-begins-to-make-way-for-natural-gas-infrastructure/article_bd9e84ae-0e17-42af-8789-67ee92bae1a9.html

Avian Influenza

Lancaster Farming: Avian Influenza Biosecurity Reminders During Spring Wild Bird Migration

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/farming-news/poultry/avian-influenza-biosecurity-reminders-during-spring-wild-bird-migration/article_4973f514-3bc7-5c2e-9503-05d4c8527296.html

SPS Fire

WHYY: SPS Technologies continues to monitor air, water in Jenkintown and says no health risks found

<https://whyy.org/articles/sps-technologies-jenkintown-pennsylvania-health-risks/>

Climate Change

Bedford Gazette: Experts say US weather forecasts will worsen

https://www.bedfordgazette.com/ap/washington/experts-say-us-weather-forecasts-will-worsen/article_1ca22d6e-5424-5e5c-8fe0-3e046362103a.html

Conservation and Recreation

Butler Eagle: Schnur: Time to start thinking about garden

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20250322/schnur-time-to-start-thinking-about-garden/>

Times Observer: Council OKs \$1.113M Mulberry Park rehab project

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2025/03/council-oks-1-113m-mulberry-park-rehab-project/>

The Mon Valley Independent: Pigeon Creek Watershed Association beautifying Valley

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2025/03/24/pigeon-creek-watershed-association-beautifying-valley/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Landslide-prone hillside along Great Allegheny Passage trail set for remediation

<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/recreation/2025/03/22/great-allegheny-passage-trail/stories/202503210094>

Tribune-Democrat: Cambria recreation authority hires maintenance specialist, transfers city lots to JRA

https://www.tribdem.com/news/cambria-recreation-authority-hires-maintenance-specialist-transfers-city-lots-to-jra/article_e3ec267a-f9ba-4ed7-8fc2-34d002c43a6e.html

WESA: New report advocates for more Pa. wildlife corridor projects

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2025-03-24/pa-wildlife-corridor-projects>

Lancaster Farming: Nearly 400 Acres of Game Lands Eyed for State Park Expansion

https://www.lancasterfarming.com/country-life/outdoors/nearly-400-acres-of-game-lands-eyed-for-state-park-expansion/article_3f2b1d06-0422-11f0-8f89-8b7ae6e633f3.html

WFMZ: Stonecliff Recreation Area closed through June for construction work, improvements

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/stonecliff-recreation-area-closed-through-june-for-construction-work-improvements/article_28679ad6-0fa2-4ca0-9f0e-9d40b03d151e.html

Energy

Pittsburgh Business Journal: Pittsburgh International Airport's microgrid shields it from power outages like Heathrow's recent chaos

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2025/03/21/airport-microgrid-heathrow.html>

Lancaster Online: Millersville Borough creates green energy district allowing potential solar project

https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/millersville-borough-creates-green-energy-district-allowing-potential-solar-project/article_1898630b-1e0d-4ecc-8d07-0561d9acf596.html

Carlisle Sentinel: Cumberland County commissioner argues alleged conflict resolved as solar project stalls

https://cumberlink.com/news/local/government-politics/article_f9d567f0-19b3-4a1c-8b55-89398fe2bdfd.html

Environment America: Centre County PA local officials pen groundbreaking solar project

<https://environmentamerica.org/pennsylvania/media-center/centre-county-pa-local-officials-pen-groundbreaking-solar-project/>

Reporter Online: Pennsylvania Attorney General has opened investigation into Upper Makefield pipeline leak

<https://www.thereporteronline.com/2025/03/23/pennsylvania-attorney-general-has-opened-investigation-into-upper-makefield-pipeline-leak/>

Oil and Gas

Beaver County Radio: Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania upgrades and replacements to natural gas distribution pipeline spending to be approved

<https://beavercountyradio.com/news/columbia-gas-of-pennsylvania-upgrades-and-replacements-to-natural-gas-distribution-pipelinespending-to-be-approved/>

LehighValleyLive: Pennsylvania Game Commission reports 72% drop in gas and oil royalties

<https://www.lehighvalleylive.com/outdoors/2025/03/pennsylvania-game-commission-reports-72-drop-in-gas-and-oil-royalties.html>

WFMZ: Stubborn Lehigh Township mulch fire still burning

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/northampton-county/nazareth-northampton-area/stubborn-lehigh-township-mulch-fire-still-burning-update/article_ca3b41c4-39f6-4f66-ae7d-70870e33c3ed.html

WITF: Federal money to plug Pa.'s dangerous wells is unfrozen, but Trump admin uncertainty plagues contractors

<https://www.witf.org/2025/03/21/federal-money-to-plug-pa-s-dangerous-wells-is-unfrozen-but-trump-admin-uncertainty-plagues-contractors/>

Waste

KDKA: Fayette County begins cracking down on illegal dumping after hauler takes woman's money

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/fayette-county-illegal-dumping-case/>

Standard Speaker: Distribution of \$3.5 million from former landfill to Schuylkill municipalities hits a snag

<https://www.standardspeaker.com/2025/03/22/distribution-of-3-5-million-from-former-landfill-to-schuylkill-municipalities-hits-a-snag/>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Someone illegally dumped 4,000 tires into Tacony Creek Park. It will take a human chain of 100 to clear.

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/philadelphia/tacony-creek-park-illegal-tire-dumping-20250321.html?query=tire%20dumping>

CBS 3: Over 4,000 tires illegally dumped in Northeast Philadelphia park: "It definitely makes me angry"
<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/tires-illegally-dumped-tacony-creek-park/>

Water

WHYY: 'Secret garden' planted at Wilmington day care in time for spring blooms
<https://whyy.org/articles/learning-center-madison-street-garden-wilmington-delaware-education/>

CBS 3: Some of the busiest bridges in the U.S. will be hit by ships in our lifetime, Johns Hopkins University study finds
<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/key-bridge-johns-hopkins-maryland-vulnerability-bay-collapse/>

Philly Burbs: Four Delaware River bridges may be vulnerable to ship collisions. We have the NTSB list
<https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/local/2025/03/24/delaware-river-bridges-vulnerable-to-ship-collisions-ntsb-pa-turnpike-walt-whitman-ben-franklin/82590910007/>

Miscellaneous

Butler Eagle: FirstEnergy replacing underground cable in Cranberry Township
<https://www.butlereagle.com/20250322/firstenergy-replacing-underground-cable-in-cranberry-township/>

New Castle News: Funding available for site environmental assessments
https://www.ncnewsonline.com/news/local_news/funding-available-for-site-environmental-assessments/article_14e4e2d4-0a77-492c-aad3-9ed8b474a829.html

Allegheny Front: How lead pollution impacts infant health
<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/how-lead-pollution-impacts-infant-mortality-health/>

Altoona Mirror: Appvion demolition still paused
<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2025/03/appvion-demolition-still-paused/>

CBS21: Homer City power plant demolition draws crowds as smokestacks partially collapse
<https://local21news.com/news/local/homer-city-power-plant-demolition-draws-crowds-as-smokestacks-partially-collapse#>

SpotlightPA: End of federal relief money will push some Pa. municipalities off a financial cliff, Shapiro admin fears
<https://www.spotlightpa.org/statecollege/2025/03/pennsylvania-arpa-legislature-budget-community-economic-development-federal-funding-covid/>

Philadelphia Inquirer: Philly Land Bank brokers deal with Sheriff's Office to resume land purchases

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/philadelphia/philadelphia-land-bank-deal-sheriffs-office-20250322.html?variant=2>

WHYY: After long hiatus, Philadelphia Land Bank will begin bidding on vacant properties
<https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-land-bank-vacant-properties-priority-status/>