

*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*

Mentions

Tribune-Democrat: Water authority prepares to review company's permit application for potential mining scenario at watershed

https://www.tribdem.com/news/water-authority-prepares-to-review-companys-permit-application-for-potential-mining-scenario-at-watershed/article_7f65fab9-4e05-46cd-9336-303f05153ea5.html

WJET-TV: Erie Port Authority launches new master plan for former Erie Coke site

<https://www.yourerie.com/news/local-news/erie-port-authority-launches-new-master-plan-for-former-erie-coke-site/>

WKOK: Columbia County student wins Lyme Disease art contest

<https://www.wkok.com/columbia-county-student-wins-lyme-disease-art-contest/>

Climate Change

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Trump eases refrigerant rule in a bid to address surging cost of groceries

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/environment/2026/05/21/trump-refrigerants-regulations-affordability/stories/202605210052>

Conservation and Recreation

WKOK: Montour Preserve lease extended with long term vision

<https://www.wkok.com/montour-preserve-lease-extended-with-long-term-vision/>

Data Centers

Morning-Times: Farmland prime for data centers, but at what cost?

https://www.morning-times.com/news/farmland-prime-for-data-centers-but-at-what-cost/article_ff1522a4-fb55-5010-ae25-c7b9a11b5928.html

Scranton Times: Dickson City denies data center developer's zoning challenge

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/05/21/dickson-city-denies-data-center-developers-zoning-challenge/>

WVIA: Dickson City Zoning Board upholds ordinance governing data centers in the borough

<https://www.wvia.org/news/local/2026-05-21/dickson-city-zoning-board-upholds-ordinance-governing-data-centers-in-the-borough>

Scranton Times: Moosic prepares comprehensive data center zoning ordinance
<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/05/21/moosic-prepares-comprehensive-data-center-zoning-ordinance/>

Morning Call: Lower Macungie approves what it hopes are strictest data center rules in Lehigh Valley
<https://www.mcall.com/2026/05/21/lower-macungie-data-center-ordinance/>

Bradford Era: Farmland prime for data centers, but at what cost?
<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/05/21/farmland-prime-data-centers-cost/>

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Main driver of building data centers is us (LTE)
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/news/2026/05/22/15/main-driver-building-data-centers-us>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Officials gather at plot slated for Lewis Township Municipal Building
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/05/officials-gather-at-plot-slated-for-lewis-township-municipal-building/>

Energy

Pittsburgh Business Times: The National Observer: Consumer sentiment slides on enduring high fuel prices
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/05/21/morning-consult-consumer-sentiment-tomato-prices.html>

WPXI: Electric rates to increase for Pennsylvanians on June 1
<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/electric-rates-increase-pennsylvanians-june-1/JFVBAFVVVVE3PMN7CPWOGN7IYE/>

KDKA: Electric bills across Pennsylvania increase on June 1. Here are 6 ways to keep costs down.
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/pennsylvania-electric-bill-increase-june-1/>

WBRE: Concerns grow over proposed gas plant near park
<https://www.2822news.com/news/concerns-grow-over-proposed-gas-plant-near-park/>

WKOK: Higher electric rates set to begin June 1st
<https://www.wkok.com/higher-electric-rates-set-to-begin-june-first/>

CBS3: Electric bills across Pennsylvania increase on June 1. Here are 6 ways to keep costs down
<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/pennsylvania-electric-bill-increase-june-1/>

Daily Local: PUC alerts consumers to June 1 electric price increases in southeast PA
Customers encouraged to review usage and explore affordability options before peak summer temperatures arrive.
<https://www.dailylocal.com/2026/05/22/puc-alerts-consumers-to-june-1-electric-price-increases-in-southeast-pa/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Lehighvalleynews: 'Evolution of the SteelStacks story': Work starts to turn former Bethlehem Steel Turn and Grind shop into event center

<https://www.lehighvalleynews.com/local-news/evolution-of-the-steelstacks-story-work-starts-to-turn-former-bethlehem-steel-turn-and-grind-shop-into-event-center>

Oil and Gas

WKOK: GasBuddy forecasts most expensive summer at the pump in years

<https://www.wkok.com/gasbuddy-forecasts-most-expensive-summer-at-the-pump-in-years/>

PFAS

Allegheny Front: EPA announces \$39M to Pa. for PFAS in drinking water while rolling back PFAS limits

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/pennsylvania-epa-pfas-forever-chemicals-regulations/>

Waste

WESA: Pittsburgh to crush more cardboard, improve curbside collections with recycling infrastructure grant

<https://www.wesa.fm/environment-energy/2026-05-22/pittsburgh-curbside-collections-recycling-grant>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: As Penn works to reduce move-out trash, Philly treasure hunters still find gems in students' garbage

<https://www.inquirer.com/consumer/upenn-move-out-trash-university-city-philadelphia-20260522.html>

Water

WPXI: Pennsylvania American Water begins monthly water quality sampling at Butler County reservoir

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/pennsylvania-american-water-begins-monthly-water-quality-sampling-butler-county-reservoir/LOT2KLXTJNBBPEHWWFZ7RXX66Q/>

TribLive: Westmoreland County water authority drops fees, offers free lead pipe replacements

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/westmoreland-county-water-authority-drops-fees-offers-free-lead-pipe-replacements/>

TribLive: Brackenridge water tap-in fees see steep increase

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/brackenridge-water-tap-in-fees-see-steep-increase/>

Williamsport Sun-Gazette: Officials gather at plot slated for new Lewis Township Municipal Building after previous building was damaged in TS Debby

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/05/officials-gather-at-plot-slated-for-lewis-township-municipal-building/>

WKOK: Bucknell research supports Milton stream restoration vision

<https://www.wkok.com/bucknell-research-supports-milton-stream-restoration-vision/>

Miscellaneous

WFMZ: Forks Township holds hearing on proposed warehouse at former Dixie Cup plant

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/northampton-county/easton-area/forks-township-holds-hearing-on-proposed-warehouse-at-former-dixie-cup-plant/article_1fbf94fe-b35b-4cd6-a25d-3bd6be040eb9.html#tncms-source=Homepage-Top-Stories

The Philadelphia Inquirer: It's bee swarm season. Are there more than usual in Philadelphia?

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania/spring-bee-swarms-philadelphia-new-jersey-20260522.html>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: A year of some trail, parking closures starts Tuesday at John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge

<https://www.inquirer.com/news/new-jersey/john-heinz-national-wildlife-refuge-trail-parking-closures-repairs-20260522.html>