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Top DEP Stories

Tribune-Democrat: Funds awarded to remove AMD from Clearfield Creek

https://www.tribdem.com/news/funds-awarded-to-remove-amd-from-clearfield-creek/article_72fd56e6-8bab-4bc4-9f9d-c7351a2f4a8a.html

Sun-Gazette: Heller dam project helps ensure safety

<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/10/heller-dam-project-helps-ensure-safety/>

KYW: Pa. investing more than \$400K in environmental protection and education

<https://www.audacy.com/kywnewsradio/news/local/pa-400k-environmental-education-grants>

Mentions

Spotlight PA: Searching for ‘slimy, shiny, brownish stuff’: A retiree's quest to help track down Pa.'s abandoned oil wells

<https://www.spotlightpa.org/news/2026/10/pennsylvania-abandoned-oil-wells-retiree-environment/>

Bradford Era: Petroleum odor reported downtown

<https://www.bradfordera.com/2026/10/06/petroleum-odor-reported-downtown/>

Butler Eagle: State government announces investment in environmental education

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20261006/state-government-announces-investment-in-environmental-education/>

Republican Herald: State, Lake Wynonah sign pact to fully drain lake ahead of dam repairs

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/10/05/state-lake-wynonah-sign-pact-to-fully-drain-lake-ahead-of-dam-repairs/>

Climate Change

The Philadelphia Inquirer: We’ve mobilized against data centers. Why can’t we be as effective in combating climate change?

<https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/commentary/climate-change-data-centers-immediacy-urban-rural-activism-20261004.html>

Conservation and Recreation

The Derrick: The effort to preserve Cook Forest began 100 years ago

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/the-effort-to-preserve-cook-forest-began-100-years-ago/article_5c7617e3-2019-4aa9-a71d-6b1db6e841b5.html

Lancaster Online: Providence Township supervisors seek grant for work on the Enola Low Grade Trail
https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/providence-township-supervisors-seek-grant-for-work-on-the-enola-low-grade-trail/article_f297da27-6551-44c1-b5b8-0655bcac1031.html

Lebtown: Lebanon County Conservation District receives grant award from HerZimBa Foundation to support preservation and conservation initiatives
<https://lebtown.com/2026/10/07/lebanon-county-conservation-district-receives-grant-award-from-herzimba-foundation-to-support-preservation-and-conservation-initiatives/>

Data Centers

Mon Valley Independent: Elizabeth Township commissioners, residents respond to data center report
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/10/06/commissioners-respond-to-data-center-report/>

Pittsburgh Business Times: Developer proposes data center, gas plant for former U.S. Steel brownfield
<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/10/05/developer-natural-gas-plant-elizabeth-township.html>

Public Source: Records reveal sprawling data center and power plant plans for Elizabeth Township
<https://www.publicsource.org/elizabeth-township-data-center-gas-plant/>

AXIOS: Summer Lee wants a data center pause
<https://www.axios.com/local/pittsburgh/2026/10/06/summer-lee-data-center-moratorium-ai>

Beaver County Times: Pa. opponents compare data center boom to fracking era
<https://www.timesonline.com/story/news/politics/government/2026/10/07/pennsylvania-data-center-moratorium-capitol-rally/92130541007/>

Press-Enterprise: Data center restrictions advance in Nescopeck
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/news/2026/10/06/1/data-center-restrictions-advance-nescopeck>

Sun-Gazette: Williamsport City Council finalizes draft zoning ordinance for data centers
<https://www.sungazette.com/news/top-news/2026/10/williamsport-city-council-finalizes-draft-zoning-ordinance-for-data-centers/>

Pennlive: In Pennsylvania, residents turn down \$10,000 each to back a data center: 'It's like bribery'
<https://www.pennlive.com/business/2026/10/in-pennsylvania-residents-turn-down-10000-each-to-back-a-data-center-its-like-bribery.html>

Pennlive: Outmaneuvered, outmatched and outspent: How data centers are overwhelming small-town America
<https://www.pennlive.com/business/2026/10/outmaneuvered-outmatched-and-outspent-how-data-centers-are-overwhelming-small-town-america.html>

Pennlive: Play this data center simulator to step into the role of decision-maker

<https://www.pennlive.com/business/2026/10/play-this-data-center-simulator-to-step-into-the-role-of-decision-maker.html>

Lancaster Online: Open House Tuesday for PPL upgrades near Lancaster city data center

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/open-house-tuesday-for-ppl-upgrades-near-lancaster-city-data-center/article_1e713a88-2912-4a76-af0d-8305457468a0.html

Gettysburg Times: Pa. House panel passes proposals on data center costs, utility company profits

https://www.gettysburgtimes.com/news/basket/pa-house-panel-passes-proposals-on-data-center-costs-utility-company-profits/article_03839f97-c7ae-48ec-ad5a-90099eb9fcbb.html

York Daily Record: Capitol rally pushes Pennsylvania data center moratorium

<https://www.ydr.com/story/news/politics/government/2026/10/07/pennsylvania-data-center-moratorium-capitol-rally/92130541007/>

Altoona Mirror: Protesters demand legislative action on data centers

<https://www.altoonamirror.com/news/local-news/2026/10/protesters-demand-legislative-action-on-data-centers/>

Huntingdon Daily News: Land owner addresses data center concerns

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/land-owner-addresses-data-center-concerns/article_78414fd1-1ec0-4738-b034-a58eee5fc31e.html

ABC27: Lancaster County keeping farmland away from data center developers

<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/lancaster/lancaster-county-keeping-farmland-away-from-data-center-developers/>

ABC27: Responding to new challenge, judge refuses to stop PAX-1 data center but sets new hearing

<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/carlsle-west-shore/responding-to-new-challenge-judge-refuses-to-stop-pax-1-data-center-but-sets-new-hearing/>

The Times Herald: Limerick continuing to update data center ordinance

<https://www.timesherald.com/2026/10/07/limerick-continuing-to-update-data-center-ordinance/>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Two Philly-area nuclear plants are increasing power generation as part of a deal with Google

<https://www.inquirer.com/business/energy/limerick-salem-data-center-nuclear-google-constellation-20261006.html>

Philly Burbs: Capitol rally pushes Pennsylvania data center moratorium

https://www.phillyburbs.com/story/news/politics/government/2026/10/07/pennsylvania-data-center-moratorium-capitol-rally/92130541007/?gps-source=CROADBLOCKDH&itm_source=roadblock&itm_medium=onsite&itm_campaign=premiumroadblock&gca-cat=p&gca-uir=true&gca-epti=z115226e002200v115226d--52--b--52--&gca-ft=90&gca-ds=sophi

My Chesco.com: Data Centers Drive 4.4-Gigawatt Pa. Gas Power Buildout

https://www.mychesco.com/a/news/pennsylvania/data-centers-drive-4-4-gigawatt-pa-gas-power-buildout/#google_vignette

Town & Country: Milford Township Updating Data Center Ordinance

<https://upvnews.com/news/article.ashx?article=33020>

69News: Bethlehem City Council OKs data center regulations

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/lehighvalley/northampton-county/bethlehem-area/bethlehem-city-council-oks-data-center-regulations/article_177a2a02-709c-4fea-92d3-73ab678ebd1f.html#tncms-source=Homepage-Top-Stories

Citizens Voice: Hanover Twp. to consider data center overlay district on former coal mining land

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2026/10/07/hanover-twp-to-consider-data-center-overlay-district-on-former-coal-mining-land/>

Citizens Voice: Hundreds crowd Newport Twp. meeting over data center concerns

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2026/10/05/hundreds-crowd-newport-twp-meeting-over-data-center-concerns/>

Scranton Times: Project Gravity to use 430MW of batteries for data centers

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/10/06/project-gravity-to-use-430mw-of-batteries-for-data-centers/>

Republican Herald: Planners designate sites in Tamaqua and Schuylkill Twp. suitable for data centers

<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/10/07/planners-designate-sites-in-tamaqua-and-schuylkill-twp-suitable-for-data-centers/>

Energy

Tribune-Democrat: Pa. House advances bill requiring battery storage for electric utilities

https://www.tribdem.com/news/local_news/pa-house-advances-bill-requiring-battery-storage-for-electric-utilities/article_c5a212d4-b979-44a0-afc4-09874004def4.html

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Letter to the editor: Use more solar energy

<https://www.post-gazette.com/local/2026/10/06/pennsylvania-power-capacity-gas-coal-ai-data-center-solar/stories/202610060001>

WPXI: Butler steel mill gets millions of dollars to boost production of material used in electrical grids

<https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/butler-steel-mill-gets-millions-dollars-boost-production-material-used-electrical-grids/VXL4PWXYXFHOFH2AHPIW5MCCFU/>

WTAE: Pittsburgh families explore backup power options as outages persist

<https://www.wtae.com/article/generators-power-outages-backup-battery/74056850>

Pittsburgh Business Times: U.S. energy secretary tours Buckeye Partners' terminal, upgraded pipeline in Coraopolis

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2026/10/06/buckeye-partners-laurel-pipeline-chris-wright.html>

Butler Eagle: Cleveland-Cliffs hosting U.S. Secretary of Energy

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20261005/cleveland-cliffs-to-provide-update-on-grain-oriented-electrical-steel-project/>

Lancaster Online: Muddy Run hydroelectric plant to test warning sirens in Lancaster, York counties

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/muddy-run-hydroelectric-plant-to-test-warning-sirens-in-lancaster-york-counties/article_76153f93-aafa-458b-809f-016ca5096358.html

ABC27: Lancaster County residents may hear sirens Thursday; here's why

<https://www.abc27.com/local-news/lancaster-county-residents-may-hear-sirens-thursday-heres-why/>

Lancaster Online: Lanchester Landfill and Caernarvon Township settle their differences over solar array

https://lancasteronline.com/news/local/lanchester-landfill-and-caernarvon-township-settle-their-differences-over-solar-array/article_90cb3cb9-3de0-4fde-a49d-ae23aff5a58e.html

Pennlive: Pennsylvania's electric choice law needs a fix, not a defense

<https://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2026/10/pennsylvanias-electric-choice-law-needs-a-fix-not-a-defense-pennlive-letters.html>

Huntingdon Daily News: Solar project talk resumes

https://www.huntingdondailynews.com/news/local/solar-project-talk-resumes/article_77e06762-d2bc-40c7-a3de-71b224e8420d.html

WHYY: Hydropower parts manufacturer in Northeast Philadelphia lands federal research partnership

<https://whyy.org/articles/kingsbury-hydropower-northeast-philadelphia-federal-research/>

Patch.com: Clean And Renewable Energy Resolution Passed In Jenkintown

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/abington/clean-renewable-energy-resolution-passed-jenkintown>

Citizens Voice: Ransom Twp. outlines concerns about proposed power plant

<https://www.citizensvoice.com/2026/10/06/ransom-twp-outlines-concerns-about-proposed-power-plant/>

Environmental Cleanup and Brownfields

Warren Times: Volunteers remove 1,000 pounds of trash from waterways

<https://www.timesobserver.com/news/local-news/2026/10/volunteers-remove-1000-pounds-of-trash-from-waterways/>

Mining

Allegheny Front: As black lung surges in Appalachia, Trump administration halts enforcement of new dust rules for coal mines

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/black-lung-disease-appalachia-silica-regulations-trump-administration/>

Lebtown: Cornwall planning discusses soil quality, mining impact claims

<https://lebtown.com/2026/10/07/cornwall-planning-discusses-soil-quality-mining-impact-claims/?lts=fbmczqxcca>

Patch.com: Daytime Blasting Scheduled At Warrington Stone Quarry

<https://patch.com/pennsylvania/doylestown/daytime-blasting-scheduled-warrington-stone-quarry>

Oil and Gas

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Supreme Court weighs local governments' climate change lawsuits against oil and gas companies

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/crime-courts/2026/10/05/us-supreme-court-local-governments-climate-change-lawsuits-oil-gas-companies/stories/202610050038>

TribLive: Board votes to review fracking exemptions in Allegheny County

<https://triblive.com/news/health-now/board-votes-to-review-fracking-exemptions-in-allegheny-county/>

PFAS

Daily Item: PFAS banned from firefighting foam, with exceptions, in Pa. Senate bill

https://www.dailyitem.com/cnhi_network/pfas-banned-from-firefighting-foam-with-exceptions-in-pa-senate-bill/article_dfe676ff-94ca-5720-9323-ec377129f3f5.html

ABC27: State Senate passes legislation to ban toxic PFAs from firefighting foam

<https://www.abc27.com/pennsylvania-politics/state-senate-passes-legislation-to-ban-toxic-pfas-from-firefighting-foam/>

Vector Management

Allegheny Front: An invasive burrowing beetle threatens pawpaw trees

<https://www.alleghenyfront.org/invasive-ambrosia-burrowing-beetles-pawpaw-fruit-trees/>

Vista.today: Phorid Flies Swarm Chester County Homes Near Mushroom Farms Again This Fall

<https://vista.today/2026/10/phorid-flies-chester-county-mushroom-farms/>

Waste

Latrobe Bulletin: Youngstown considers smoke testing sewer system for defects

https://www.latrobebulletinnews.com/news/youngstown-considers-smoke-testing-sewer-system-for-defects/article_1805c253-0eb0-4f26-9d9d-5c17866988ae.html

Bucks County Today: Surplus Bucks County Crops Feed Local Families as EPA Chief Visits Solebury Orchards

<https://bucksco.today/2026/10/rolling-harvest-food-rescue-solebury-orchards/>

WHYY: Philly goes head-to-head against Chicago and Los Angeles to see which city can pick up the most trash

<https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-litter-trash-volunteers-intercity-contest/>

Water

Tribune-Democrat: Cambria Somerset Authority to increase industrial water rates by 20% for 2027

https://www.tribdem.com/news/local_news/cambria-somerset-authority-to-increase-industrial-water-rates-by-20-for-2027/article_bef69c8c-216b-4b01-a8ca-ec7e22e452a7.html

Tribune-Democrat: Jennerstown office, stormwater projects in line for CDBG support

https://www.tribdem.com/news/jennerstown-office-stormwater-projects-in-line-for-cdbg-support/article_5ba691e6-94a7-4538-a366-aff85602bda8.html

CBS21: Hampden Township board VP confirms effort to eliminate water treatment plant odor

<https://local21news.com/news/local/hampden-township-board-vp-confirms-effort-to-eliminate-water-treatment-plant-odor-pa-pennsylvania-smell-stinky-concerns-citizens-board-of-commissioners-transparency>

Miscellaneous

WJAC: PA senator proposes suspending gas tax to save drivers millions amid high prices

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/pa-senator-proposes-suspending-gas-tax-to-save-drivers-millions-amid-high-prices-money-economy-fuel-pump-harrisburg-politics-bill-law>

WJAC: Jefferson County Planning Commission advances new land development

<https://wjactv.com/news/local/jefferson-county-planning-commission-advances-new-land-development-ordinance>

TribLive: Revitalization committee looks to tackle zoning ordinances in Harrison

<https://triblive.com/local/valley-news-dispatch/revitalization-committee-looks-to-tackle-zoning-ordinances-in-harrison/>

Observer-Reporter: Conservation District seeking director

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2026/oct/07/conservation-district-seeking-director-2/>

WHYY: Philadelphia Gas Works CEO got free trips to Phillies spring training, but didn't disclose required details on state ethics form

<https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-gas-works-ceo-seth-shapiro-ethics-disclosure-gifts-phillies/>

WHYY: Light pollution, wildfire smoke threaten view of the stars in the Philly suburbs

<https://whyy.org/articles/light-pollution-pennsylvania-stargazing/>

WBRE: Several Scranton bridges to close for levee test

<https://www.2822news.com/traffic/several-scranton-bridges-to-close-for-levee-test/>

WOLF56: Residents question new Throop zoning map amendment filed by Theta Land, Core5

<https://fox56.com/news/local/residents-question-new-throop-zoning-map-amendment-filed-by-theta-land-core5>