

*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

Republican Herald: Trucking leachate from BRADS landfill too much to bear, St. Clair resident charges
<https://www.republicanherald.com/2026/09/16/trucking-leachate-from-brads-landfill-too-much-to-bear-st-clair-resident-charges/>

Times Leader: Trump signs order reversing Chesapeake Bay mandate tied to Pa. 'Rain Tax'
<https://www.timesleader.com/news/1755344/trump-rescinds-chesapeake-bay-order-prompting-calls-to-revisit-pa-rain-tax>

Sunbury Daily Item: Mifflinburg approves major wastewater system upgrades, discusses rate increases
https://www.dailymitem.com/news/mifflinburg-approves-major-wastewater-system-upgrades-discusses-rate-increases/article_51b17e35-9650-40a2-af91-dfbbf678bad5.html

Air

Daily Courier: LH administrators say air quality reports coming back safe
https://www.dailycourier.com/news/lh-administrators-say-air-quality-reports-coming-back-safe/article_2bc60068-4375-40f8-85d4-1eeef52d86ac.html

Chestnut Hill Local: Philadelphia ranked No. 4 worst city for asthma
<https://www.chestnuthilllocal.com/stories/philadelphia-ranked-no-4-worst-city-for-asthma,42175>

Climate Change

The Philadelphia Citizen: On Opioids and Climate Change
<https://thephiladelphiacitizen.org/guest-commentary-on-opioids-and-climate-change/>

Conservation and Recreation

Daily American: Ditches and ATVs don't mix well causing serious injuries and deaths
<https://www.dailyamerican.com/story/news/accident/2026/09/17/following-atv-safety-measures-can-help-prevent-death-injuries-somerset-county-pa/91061130007/>

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: Allegheny City Brewing embraces the seasonal pawpaw fruit
<https://www.post-gazette.com/life/drinks/2026/09/17/pawpaw-beer-allegheny-city-brewing/stories/202609200009>

Data Centers

Mon Valley Independent: There's one issue where Republicans & Democrats are unified before midterms

<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/09/17/theres-one-issue-where-republicans-democrats-are-unified-before-midterms/>

Butler Eagle: Muddy Creek Township to draft data center ordinance

<https://www.butlereagle.com/20260917/muddy-creek-township-to-draft-data-center-ordinance/>

The Derrick: Public informational sessions on proposed Scrubgrass data center set next week

https://www.thederrick.com/news/front_page/public-informational-sessions-on-proposed-scrubgrass-data-center-set-next-week/article_68e754a7-7aa4-4e34-9841-525067fb971f.html

Scranton Times: 'Facts, science, evidence': Commissioners OK data center health impact study

<https://www.thetimes-tribune.com/2026/09/16/facts-science-evidence-commissioners-ok-data-center-health-impact-study/>

WOLF56: Lackawanna County moving forward with \$165k data center health study

<https://fox56.com/news/local/lackawanna-county-moving-forward-with-165k-data-center-health-study>

Central Bucks Now: Shapiro called his data-centers executive order the strictest in the nation. Much of it was already the law.

<https://centralbucksnews.com/news/shapiro-called-his-data-centers-executive-order-the-strictest-in-the-nation-much-of-it-was-already-the-law/>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Mayor Parker has ordered a task force to study data centers in Philly and report back by June

<https://www.inquirer.com/politics/philadelphia/mayor-parker-signs-data-center-order-task-force-20260917.html>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: The Philadelphia Inquirer (Originally NYT): House passes bill taking aim at data center electricity costs

<https://www.inquirer.com/politics/nation/house-bill-data-center-energy-costs-20260917.html>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Holtec delays IPO, citing energy demand uncertainty amid U.S. data center backlash

<https://www.inquirer.com/business/holtec-camden-ipo-data-center-backlash-20260917.html>

Lebtown: North Annville Township supervisors enact data center ordinance

<https://lebtown.com/2026/09/17/north-annville-township-supervisors-enact-data-center-ordinance/?lts=y27pg8i6p0>

ABC27: Protest against Pennsylvania AI data center set for Friday: What to know

<https://www.abc27.com/national/dozens-of-protests-against-ai-data-centers-set-for-this-weekend-what-to-know/>

WFMZ: Environmental groups react to New Morgan data center zoning change; borough says it's 'proactive planning'

https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/southern-berks-county/environmental-groups-react-to-new-morgan-data-center-zoning-change-borough-says-it-s-proactive/article_c9305ad7-a0bc-46a5-ac15-440334bf2023.html

WKOK: Gregg Township to decide data center proposal

<https://www.wkok.com/gregg-township-to-decide-data-center-proposal/>

Wellsboro Gazette: Wellsboro council room filled by data center objectors

https://www.tiogapublishing.com/the_wellsboro_mansfield_gazette/news/local/wellsboro-council-room-filled-by-data-center-objectors/article_811db946-6165-4946-bf91-fa83f6fa3339.html

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Data center land may move

<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/news/2026/09/17/1/data-center-land-may-move>

Shamokin News-Item: Gregg Township to decide on data center application within 45 days

https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/gregg-township-to-decide-on-data-center-application-within-45-days/article_ce662e39-006d-5afd-83b6-4444ad31057b.html

Drought

Lebtown: County continues under drought warning, conservation urged

<https://lebtown.com/2026/09/17/county-continues-under-drought-warning-conservation-urged/?lts=hma0xhqxfm>

Energy

Observer-Reporter: NextEra holds open house for \$13B Fayette County power plant proposal

<https://www.observer-reporter.com/news/local-news/2026/sep/17/nextera-holds-open-house-for-13b-fayette-county-power-plant-proposal/>

KDKA: Duquesne Light and U.S. Department of Energy introduce technology to enhance electrical grid

<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/duquesne-light-dept-of-energy-grid-enhancement/>

WESA: Federal energy officials praise Duquesne Light efforts to make electric grid more resilient

<https://www.wesanews.org/environment-energy/2026-09-17/federal-energy-officials-duquesne-light-electric-grid-resilient>

WTAE: Fayette County power plant project divides community over jobs and environmental concerns

<https://www.wtae.com/article/fayette-county-power-plant-jobs-environmental-concerns/73752895>

TribLive: Shannon Ames: Modern hydropower, Pa.'s conservation opportunity

<https://triblive.com/opinion/shannon-ames-modern-hydropower-pa-s-conservation-opportunity/>

TribLive: Bethel Park-based SHIM looks to benefit from solar panels

<https://triblive.com/local/bethel-park-based-shim-looks-to-benefit-from-solar-panels/>

Mining

Tribune-Democrat: Somerset County mining company honored for reclamation effort
https://www.tribdem.com/news/somerset-county-mining-company-honored-for-reclamation-effort/article_a287f65f-e61e-44b8-b8cd-bfbb1df48fac.html

Vector Management

KDKA: Gnats N'at: How Pittsburghers can keep the annoying bugs out of their homes
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/gnats-bugs-and-pest-control-in-pittsburgh/>

Waste

CBS3: Philadelphia councilmember proposes plan to reduce trash sent to landfills, incinerators
<https://www.cbsnews.com/philadelphia/news/philadelphia-plan-reduce-trash-landfills-incinerators/>

6abc: Waste management strategy raises questions over where Philadelphia burns city trash
<https://6abc.com/post/philadelphia-leaders-trying-reduce-amount-garbage-questions-where-city-trash-is-burned/19843018/>

WHYY: Philly City Councilmember proposes 'zero-waste' bill to divert 60% of city trash from landfills, incinerators
<https://whyy.org/articles/philadelphia-zero-waste-bill-trash-landfills-incinerators/>

Shamokin News-Item: E-recycling event to be held next month at Mount Carmel pool
https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/e-recycling-event-to-be-held-next-month-at-mount-carmel-pool/article_234e09df-9776-4446-bf45-655acdcecf50.html

Shamokin News-Item: Zerbe township officials report ongoing illegal activity at park
https://www.newsitem.com/news/local/zerbe-township-officials-report-ongoing-illegal-activity-at-park/article_9279c67b-eab6-4caf-b62c-8dc6b3d03ff4.html

Water

KDKA: Pittsburgh Water launches debt forgiveness program to help families with rising costs
<https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/pittsburgh-water-debt-forgiveness-program/>

WNEP: President Trump signs executive order to reverse 'Rain Tax' mandate
<https://www.wnep.com/article/news/local/luzerne-county/trump-signs-executive-order-to-reverse-rain-tax-mandate/523-4abc8322-92bd-4983-a48a-fb1f44c162ae?tbref=hp>

WOLF56: Trump revokes Obama-era Bay order cited in Luzerne County 'rain tax' debate

<https://fox56.com/news/local/trump-revokes-obama-era-bay-order-cited-in-luzerne-county-rain-tax-debate>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Neshaminy Creek's dam is demolished to let rivers flow freely
<https://www.inquirer.com/video/neshaminy-creeks-dam-is-demolished-let-rivers-flow-freely-20260916.html>

Lancaster Online: Second water pipe connecting to Susquehanna River could cost \$122M, Lancaster public works chief says
https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/second-water-pipe-connecting-to-susquehanna-river-could-cost-122m-lancaster-public-works-chief-says/article_364bc156-062d-48aa-be4c-ee439c92422c.html

Lancaster Online: 'My backyard is ruined': Neighbors tell Akron officials to stop passing buck on stormwater
https://lancasteronline.com/news/regional/my-backyard-is-ruined-neighbors-tell-akron-officials-to-stop-passing-buck-on-stormwater/article_8ea05bcd-621c-43bb-a8bc-67fe5985e3fd.html

WFMZ: Muhlenberg Twp. receives funding to reduce impacts of extreme flooding
https://www.wfmz.com/news/area/berks/reading-area/muhlenberg-twp-receives-funding-to-reduce-impacts-of-extreme-flooding/article_2dcfa033-5d43-4e76-bbe6-3913470327ed.html

Westfield Free Press-Courier: Elkland increases pay for secretary, votes down authority candidate
https://www.tiogapublishing.com/free_press_courier/news/local/elkland-increases-pay-for-secretary-votes-down-authority-candidate/article_27fc0ca5-6149-4f5d-96b4-374cf48e0f41.html

Wellsboro Gazette: Osceola authority OKs income survey
https://www.tiogapublishing.com/the_wellsboro_mansfield_gazette/news/local/osceola-authority-oks-income-survey/article_b67eac0c-743e-4218-aa42-8baeb2f25a97.html

Bloomsburg Press-Enterprise: Columbia, Montour counties get \$2M in grants
<https://www.pressenterpriseonline.com/news/2026/09/17/4/columbia-montour-counties-get-2m-grants>

Miscellaneous

Mon Valley Independent: Delinquent sanitation bills being targeted in Donora
<https://www.monvalleyindependent.com/2026/09/17/delinquent-sanitation-bills-being-targeted-in-donora/>

WESA: Inadequate safety and training led to 2025 blast at Shell ethane cracker, safety report board finds
<https://www.wesanews.org/environment-energy/2026-09-17/safety-training-shell-ethane-cracker-blast>

The Philadelphia Inquirer: Why isn't the Academy of Natural Sciences building historically protected? No one ever nominated it.
<https://www.inquirer.com/real-estate/commercial/academy-natural-sciences-building-philadelphia-register-historic-places-nomination-20260916.html>

Fox29: 'It was a disaster for a lot of people': South Philly residents hit by repeat flooding

<https://www.fox29.com/news/it-was-disaster-lot-people-south-philly-residents-hit-repeat-flooding>

Bucks County Beacon: An Environmental Defender Is Murdered Every Three Days

<https://buckscountybeacon.com/2026/09/an-environmental-defender-is-murdered-every-three-days/>

Potter Leader-Enterprise: Donald Trump's war on the environment (Op-Ed)

https://www.tiogapublishing.com/potter_leader_enterprise/opinion/donald-trump-s-war-on-the-environment-opinion-column-by-joe-gandelman/article_46f9ed31-37fa-4f23-bd13-347ba6972e21.html