12.29.25
All Articles & NewsClips In This Week's Digest By Topic

Weekly PA Environment Digest PA Environment Digest Blog Twitter Facebook

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-- **12.22.25** - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- **Weekly Archive At Bottom Of This Page**

Links to all the Articles and NewsClips in **this week's PA Environment Digest** by topic in one place--

Articles & NewsClips By Topic ----------

-- 112 New Stories - REAL Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA [PaEN]

-- Environment & Energy Educational Opportunities For Students & Adults [PaEN]

-- In Case You Missed It: A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - December 29 [PaEN]

-- Top 10 Stories: Harrisburg/PA Politics Reported By Local News Media Last Week [PaEN]

Check Calendars For Events Near You!
-- Check The Calendars For Events Near You: DEP Calendar of Events; PA Parks & Forests Foundation's Events webpage and DCNR's Calendar of Events.

New Federal Administration

Deregulation For Industry
-- The Guardian Guest Essay: President's Shuttering Of The National Center For Atmospheric Research Is Stalinist - By Michael Mann, University of Pennsylvania, and Bob Ward, London School of Economics & Political Science
-- Lehigh Valley Business Guest Essay: Powering Pennsylvania's Future Requires Durable, Predictable State, Federal Permitting - By Stephanie Catarino Wissman, American Petroleum Institute - Pennsylvania

President's Tariffs
-- The Guardian: US Farmers Say President's $12 Billion Package Not Enough To Undo Damage From His Tariffs

Reversing Course
-- Warren Times: US Forest Service Conducting Federal Superfund Pollution Assessment Of Abandoned American Refining Group Oil & Gas Facilities In Allegheny National Forest [PaEN]
-- Post-Gazette: PA Receives OK To Spend $112 Million In Federal Funds For Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

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-- Spotlight PA: What's At Stake For Allegheny National Forest As President US Forest Service Considers Rescinding Roadless Area Conservation Rule [Part II]
-- Post-Gazette/PennLive: President's Tariffs Tank Pennsylvania's Lumber Industry; Now It Seeks A Bailout

Federal Funding Cuts, Freeze
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Air
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Alternative Fuels
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Budget
-- Independent Fiscal Office Projects $5 Billion State Budget Structural Deficit In Current Fiscal Year
-- Warren Times Editorial: State Fiscal Challenges Alarming

Chesapeake Bay
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Wildlife, Water Quality Depend On Streamside Forests
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal Guest Essay: From Pennsylvania To The Chesapeake Bay, Miles And Miles Of Precious Waterways - By John Montgomery, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
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-- Western PA Conservancy Protects 183 Acres Of Forestland In Cameron County For Elk State Forest [PaEN]
-- Western PA Conservancy Acquires 74 Acres Of Forestland, Adds To Natural Area Within The French Creek Watershed In Erie County [PaEN]
-- Penn State Extension Feb. 3 Webinar On Exploring Nature Through Journaling For Citizen Scientists, Educators, Outdoor Enthusiasts [PaEN]

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-- Today's Violations: DEP: Six **Amer Natural Resources LLC** conventional wells in **Allegheny County** continue to be abandoned and not plugged in violation of DEP Order since Dec. 12, 2019-- 2,202 days and counting. Read more here.
-- Today's Violations: DEP: **Diversified Prod LLC** failed to comply with March 7, 2019 Consent Order to plug and restore two abandoned conventional oil and gas wells in **Georges and Nicholson Townships, Fayette County** for 2,478 days and counting. Read more here.
-- Today's Violations: DEP: **Minard Run Oil Co** crude oil pipeline rupture in **Jenks Township, Forest County** in the Allegheny National Forest resulted in a release travelling 150 feet into Guiton Run (High Quality) and down the stream for 1,400 feet. Remediation underway. Read more here.
-- Today's Violations: DEP: Review of two **Chesapeake Appalachia LLC** shale gas wells at McGraw well pad in **Washington Township, Wyoming County** found continuing gas venting from casing/cementing failure from July 29, 2019 -- 2,335 days and counting. Read more here.
-- Attorney General Sunday Announces $6.6 Million Share For Pennsylvania From National Settlement In Mercedes-Benz Vehicle Emissions Fraud Case [PaEN]
-- TribLive: Water Main Break Repaired At Winfield Mobile Home Park After Persistent Water Issues In Butler County

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-- Inquirer - Frank Kummer: Schuylkill Trail Sinkhole Repaired, Area Reopened For Christmas Eve ‘As A Holiday Present’
-- Scranton Times: New Playground Completed At Hillside Park In Scranton
-- TribLive: McCandless Leaders Approve Master Site Development Plan For Community’s Parks In Allegheny County

DEP
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-- TribLive: Where To Recycle Your Christmas Trees In Allegheny County
-- TribLive: Annual Oakmont Christmas Tree Collection To Benefit Goats In Allegheny County
-- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: From Mulch To Fish Habitats, There Are Many Options For Natural Christmas Tree Recycling
-- WHYY: Your Philly Christmas Tree Could Get A 2nd Life Benefitting City Gardens, Trails And Even Goats
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Background On Issues

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Clairton Coke [Coal] Works Explosion
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-- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: Federal Investigators Flag Safety Concerns During Ongoing Investigation Of US Steel Clairton Coke [Coal] Works Explosion

Gas Explosions
-- AP: Explosions At Bucks County Nursing Home Kill At Least 2, Gov. Shapiro Says; Odor Of Natural Gas At The Site
-- Inquirer: Bucks County Explosion: 2 Dead, 20 Hurt In Nursing Home Blast; Shapiro Says There Are 'A Lot Of Unanswered Questions'
-- AP: Rescuers Rushed Into Flames To Save Nursing Home Residents In Bucks County After Deadly Explosion

Emergency Response

-- Public Utility Commission: Post-Christmas Winter Storm Safety [PaEN]
-- Shapiro Administration Highlights Increases In Disaster Assistance Funding In Current Budget To Keep PA Communities, Residents Safe
-- Tribune-Democrat: PEMA Director Visits Somerset County To Highlight Increase In State Disaster Response Funds
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Federal Judge Blocks FEMA From Ending Disaster Mitigation Funding Program; Nearly $1 Billion Slated To Support Projects In Chesapeake Bay Watershed States
-- Post-Gazette: Pittsburgh Region Continues To Be Haunted By 2025's Extreme Weather Events

International/National Impacts On PA Natural Gas
[Energy Independence Means Renewables]

-- AAA Average Gasoline Prices: National- $2.84 Ohio- $2.78 PA- $3.07
-- Baker Hughes: PA Natural Gas Drilling Rigs-- 18-- Same For 5 Weeks
-- Guest Essay: Lessons From A.I. Data Centers And Shale Gas Fracking Tours - By Scott Cannon, Luzerne County [PaEN]
-- PA Energy, Environmental, Citizen Advocates Call On PUC To Protect Ratepayers, Communities From Costs, Impacts Of A.I. Data Centers [PaEN]
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-- The Center Square: 2025 - The 'First' Year Of A.I. - Higher Electricity Prices; More Shale Gas Fracking; Community Controversy
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A.I.//Data Centers
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Energy Cost
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-- Post-Gazette Guest Essay: Competition Creates Better Consumer Deals - Even For Electricity - While Noncompetitive Transmission Facility Costs Have Risen Sharply - By John Hanger, Former PUC Commissioner

Grid

-- TribLive - Jack Troy: PJM's Power Auction Shortfall Could Lead To Increased Blackout Risks In PA, Other States In Face Of A.I. Data Center Power Demands
-- Post-Gazette: Duquesne Light Studying Ways A.I. Could Improve Electric Grid And Reliability
-- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: Duquesne Light Is Helping Train Contractors On Heat Pumps, HVAC

Energy Generation

-- Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader Guest Essay: Pennsylvania Must Be Prepared To Meet Energy Challenges - By Tom Gilbert, PA Environmental Council
-- Morning Call Guest Essay: Pennsylvania Must Be Prepared To Meet Energy Challenges - By Tom Gilbert, PA Environmental Council
-- Reuters Commentary: Renewables With Batteries Produce Cheaper Energy Than Natural Gas; LNG Gas Exports Glut Turning Into A Sinkhole
-- Utility Dive: President Tries To Halt Construction Of Just Over 7 Gigawatts Of Much-Needed Electrical Generation From East Coast Wind Farms
-- Reuters: A.I. Data Centers Are Forcing Dirty 'Peaker' Power Plants Back Into Service
-- Inquirer/Reuters: The A.I. Frenzy Is Driving A New Global Supply Chain Crisis

Impacts

-- Guest Essay: Lessons From A.I. Data Centers And Shale Gas Fracking Tours - By Scott Cannon, Luzerne County [PaEN]
-- Post-Gazette Guest Essay: A.I. Data Centers In PA Won't Use Too Much Water, But More Investment Needed In Water Infrastructure - By Howard Neukrug, University of Pennsylvania Water Center

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-- Post-Gazette: PA Lawmakers Rankled By President's Order To Oppose State Regulation Of A.I.: 'We're Not Stopping'

Feds

-- Wall Street Journal: States See A Federal Power Grab In Clash With President Over A.I. Data Centers [PDF of Article]

Energy

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-- Warren Times/AP: President's Return Brought Stiff Headwinds For Clean Energy, So Why Are Advocates Optimistic In 2026? [PDF of Article]
-- Williamsport Sun Guest Essay: Energy Future Shouldn't Be Held Hostage To Fossil Fuel Myths; Renewables Aren't The Reason For Soaring Energy Prices, Grid Fragility - By Douglas Webster, Monroeville [PDF of Article]
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Energy Conservation

-- DEP Helped Local Governments Save Over $1 Million In Energy Costs Thru Shared Energy Manager Program In 2025; Apply Now For 2026 [PaEN]
-- DEP: PA Industrial Energy Assessments Can Find Energy Savings At Your Facility, Apply Today!

Environmental Health

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-- TribLive: Stroud Water Research Center Study Of Water Contamination From Road Salt Flags Problems In Washington County
-- Penn State Extension Hosts Feb. 18 Webinar On Biting Pests - Why Are There So Many Ticks? [PaEN]

Farming
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-- Republican Herald: Schuylkill Conservation District Celebrates 70th Year, Highlights Major Events Of 2025 [PDF of Article]
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Wildlife, Water Quality Depend On Streamside Forests
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal Guest Essay: From Pennsylvania To The Chesapeake Bay, Miles And Miles Of Precious Waterways - By John Montgomery, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
-- USDA NRCS-PA Pennsylvania State Technical Committee Meeting Jan. 22, 1:00 p.m.
-- Penn State Extension Hosts Jan. 28 Webinar On Agricultural Soil Health Practices For Clean Water [PaEN]
-- TribLive: Annual Oakmont Christmas Tree Collection To Benefit Goats In Allegheny County
-- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: From Mulch To Fish Habitats, There Are Many Options For Natural Christmas Tree Recycling
-- WHYY: Your Philly Christmas Tree Could Get A 2nd Life Benefitting City Gardens, Trails And Even Goats
-- The Guardian: US Farmers Say President's $12 Billion Package Not Enough To Undo Damage From His Tariffs

Fish & Boat Commission
-- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: Fish & Boat, Game Commissions To Study Sharing Resources, Consolidation Of Functions
-- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: Fish Commission May Increase Size Limit To Keep Trout 2 Inches, Here's Why
-- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: From Mulch To Fish Habitats, There Are Many Options For Natural Christmas Tree Recycling
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Flooding
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Forests
-- Warren Times: US Forest Service Conducting Federal Superfund Pollution Assessment Of Abandoned American Refining Group Oil & Gas Facilities In Allegheny National Forest [PaEN]
-- Farm & Dairy: Two Workers Die From Injuries Months After Ohio Abandoned Oil & Gas Well Explosion In Wayne National Forest
-- Spotlight PA: The Battle For The Heart - And Health - Of The Allegheny National Forest In PA [Part I]
-- Spotlight PA: What's At Stake For Allegheny National Forest As President US Forest Service Considers Rescinding Roadless Area Conservation Rule [Part II]
-- Post-Gazette/PennLive: President's Tariffs Tank Pennsylvania's Lumber Industry; Now It Seeks A Bailout
-- PA Capital-Star: Family Tradition In Indiana County - Christmas Tree Capital Of The World
-- LancasterOnline: Here's When, Where To Recycle Your Christmas Tree In Lancaster County
-- TribLive: Where To Recycle Your Live Christmas Tree In Westmoreland County
-- TribLive: Where To Recycle Your Christmas Trees In Allegheny County
-- TribLive: Annual Oakmont Christmas Tree Collection To Benefit Goats In Allegheny County
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-- Lancaster Gather & Grow Street Tree Grant Program Offering 500 Free Native Trees To Lancaster County Partners To Boost Tree Canopy, Improve Local Water Quality
-- DCNR State Parks Environmental Ed News - Winter Solstice Edition! [PaEN]
-- Penn State Extension Hosts Feb. 18 Webinar On Biting Pests - Why Are There So Many Ticks? [PaEN]
-- Interns Wanted: Departments Of Environmental Protection, Conservation & Natural Resources Have Summer, Other Intern Positions Open [PaEN]
-- Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps Now Accepting Applications From Young People For 2026 Season [PaEN]

Game Commission
-- PA Society For Ornithology Accepting Applications For Conservation Partner Organizations For The 2026 Breeding Bird Blitz [PaEN]

-- Centre Daily Times - Mark Nale: The Evening Grosbeak Is In Trouble; PA Researcher Hopes To Find Answers With Help Of Citizen Scientists [PDF of Article]
-- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: Fish & Boat, Game Commissions To Study Sharing Resources, Consolidation Of Functions
-- PennLive: Raven Ridge Wildlife Center Treats 7 Bald Eagles Suffering From Lead Poisoning In Lancaster County
-- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: Pittsburgh National Aviary Is A Leader In Helping African Penguins Starving To Death In South Africa
-- PA Natural Heritage Program News: Reinvigorated PA Plant Conservation Alliance; Spider Wasps; Fogg's Goosefoot; Southern Pine Beetle Outbreak; Much More! [PaEN]

Grants/Funding
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-- DEP: PA Industrial Energy Assessments Can Find Energy Savings At Your Facility, Apply Today!
-- PennDOT Announces Multimodal Transportation Grants, Including Pedestrian, Trail Improvements; Next Application Period Opens Jan. 5
-- Post-Gazette: PA Receives OK To Spend $112 Million In Federal Funds For Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
-- PennDOT Opens First Federally Funded Electric Vehicle Charging Station On PA Turnpike At blue Mountain Service Plaza West
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Federal Judge Blocks FEMA From Ending Disaster Mitigation Funding Program; Nearly $1 Billion Slated To Support Projects In Chesapeake Bay Watershed States

Green Infrastructure
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-- Lancaster Gather & Grow Street Tree Grant Program Offering 500 Free Native Trees To Lancaster County Partners To Boost Tree Canopy, Improve Local Water Quality
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-- Central PA Conservancy Partners With Mowery Family To Preserve 261 Acre Forested Property In Cumberland County [PaEN]
-- Western PA Conservancy Protects 183 Acres Of Forestland In Cameron County For Elk State Forest [PaEN]
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Hazardous Sites Cleanup
-- Warren Times: US Forest Service Conducting Federal Superfund Pollution Assessment Of Abandoned American Refining Group Oil & Gas Facilities In Allegheny National Forest [PaEN]
-- Farm & Dairy: Two Workers Die From Injuries Months After Ohio Abandoned Oil & Gas Well Explosion In Wayne National Forest

Hazardous Substances
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Land Conservation
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-- Seven Winter Activities To Enjoy On Western PA Conservancy Preserves
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-- Scranton Times: New Playground Completed At Hillside Park In Scranton
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Land Recycling
-- PA Oil & Gas Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - December 27 [PaEN]

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-- LancasterOnline: PA Lawmakers Want To Restore 24-Hour Agenda Notice For Local Government Meetings After PA Supreme Court Ruling

Lake Erie
-- Erie Times: DCNR Asking Public For Input On Presque Isle, Erie Bluffs Master Plan

Oil & Gas
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-- DEP Posted 58 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In December 27 PA Bulletin [PaEN]
-- DEP Soliciting Information For Use In The Development Of The Next Triennial Review Of Water Quality Standards; Including Specifically For Copper [PaEN]
-- Morning Call: Changes Coming To Beltzville Lake Federal Recreation Area In Carbon

County, Jan. 7 Public Meeting
-- PUC Schedules 10 Public Hearings On Proposed 14.6% PA American Water Rate Increase
-- Erie Times: DCNR Asking Public For Input On Presque Isle, Erie Bluffs Master Plan
-- LancasterOnline: PA Lawmakers Want To Restore 24-Hour Agenda Notice For Local Government Meetings After PA Supreme Court Ruling

PUC
-- Public Utility Commission: Post-Christmas Winter Storm Safety [PaEN]
-- AP: Explosions At Bucks County Nursing Home Kill At Least 2, Gov. Shapiro Says; Odor Of Natural Gas At The Site
-- Inquirer: Bucks County Explosion: 2 Dead, 20 Hurt In Nursing Home Blast; Shapiro Says There Are 'A Lot Of Unanswered Questions'
-- AP: Rescuers Rushed Into Flames To Save Nursing Home Residents In Bucks County After Deadly Explosion
-- In Case You Missed It: A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - December 29 [PaEN]
-- Guest Essay: Lessons From A.I. Data Centers And Shale Gas Fracking Tours - By Scott Cannon, Luzerne County [PaEN]
-- PA Energy, Environmental, Citizen Advocates Call On PUC To Protect Ratepayers, Communities From Costs, Impacts Of A.I. Data Centers [PaEN]
-- TribLive - Jack Troy: PJM's Power Auction Shortfall Could Lead To Increased Blackout Risks In PA, Other States In Face Of A.I. Data Center Power Demands
-- The Center Square: Don't Count On Lower Electricity Prices In 2026; Driven By A.I. Data Center Demand In PJM
-- The Center Square: 2025 - The 'First' Year Of A.I. - Higher Electricity Prices; More Shale Gas Fracking; Community Controversy
-- WHYY: Philadelphia Electric, Gas Bills Surged In 2025, More Increases Are Coming In 2026, Here's Why [Spoilers: A.I. Data Center Demand, Natural Gas Increases]
-- TribLive Letter: Approve Clean Energy Projects To Bring Down Price Of Electricity - By Mary Zuccaro, Carnegie
-- Post-Gazette: Duquesne Light Studying Ways A.I. Could Improve Electric Grid And Reliability
-- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: PA Environmental Groups Appeal DEP Permit For Massive Natural Gas Power Plant Meant To Power Homer Center A.I. Data Center Campus
-- Pittsburgh Business Times: Homer City A.I. Data Center 4.5 GW Natural Gas Power Plant Permit Faces Appeals From Environmental Groups, 13 Children [PDF of Article]
-- Post-Gazette Guest Essay: A.I. Data Centers In PA Won't Use Too Much Water, But More Investment Needed In Water Infrastructure - By Howard Neukrug, University of Pennsylvania Water Center
-- Post-Gazette Guest Essay: Competition Creates Better Consumer Deals - Even For Electricity - While Noncompetitive Transmission Facility Costs Have Risen Sharply - By John Hanger, Former PUC Commissioner
-- Post-Gazette - Adriana E. Ramirez: The People Of Springdale Are Right To Hate Data Centers: 'We're Giving Up Too Much For Too Little'
-- Scranton Times: A.I. Data Centers Are 2025 Newsmaker Of The Year In NE PA [PDF of Article]

-- DEP To Host Jan. 6 Public Information Meeting On Water Quality Permits For The A.I. Data Center Proposal In Archbald Boro, Lackawanna County [Some Of The 84 Data Center Buildings Proposed In NE PA] [PaEN]
-- Scranton Times: DEP Hold Jan. 6 Meeting On 'Project Gravity' A.I. Data Centers In Archbald, Lackawanna County [PDF of Article]
-- PennLive - Charles Thompson: 693 Acre Cumberland County A.I. Data Center Project Gets First OK From Middlesex Township Planners
-- York Dispatch: East Manchester Twp. To Rezone 300 Acres Of Farmland For A.I. Data Center Use In York County; Jan. 20 Meeting Set [PDF of Article]
-- Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader Guest Essay: Pennsylvania Must Be Prepared To Meet Energy Challenges - By Tom Gilbert, PA Environmental Council
-- Morning Call Guest Essay: Pennsylvania Must Be Prepared To Meet Energy Challenges - By Tom Gilbert, PA Environmental Council
-- Utility Dive: President Tries To Halt Construction Of Just Over 7 Gigawatts Of Much-Needed Electrical Generation From East Coast Wind Farms
-- Reuters: A.I. Data Centers Are Forcing Dirty 'Peaker' Power Plants Back Into Service
-- Wall Street Journal: States See A Federal Power Grab In Clash With President Over A.I. Data Centers [PDF of Article]
-- Inquirer/Reuters: The A.I. Frenzy Is Driving A New Global Supply Chain Crisis
-- PUC Schedules 10 Public Hearings On Proposed 14.6% PA American Water Rate Increase

Recreation
-- DCNR Hosts First Day Hikes On New Year's Day Across The Commonwealth [PaEN]
-- PennLive: First Day Hikes 2026: Where To Start The New Year Outdoors In PA
-- Erie Times: DCNR Asking Public For Input On Presque Isle, Erie Bluffs Master Plan
-- WHYY: Why The Lower Schuylkill River Should Get Your Vote For PA River Of The Year
-- Morning Call: Changes Coming To Beltzville Lake Federal Recreation Area In Carbon County, Jan. 7 Public Meeting
-- PennDOT Announces Multimodal Transportation Grants, Including Pedestrian, Trail Improvements; Next Application Period Opens Jan. 5
-- DCNR State Parks Environmental Ed News - Winter Solstice Edition! [PaEN]
-- Interns Wanted: Departments Of Environmental Protection, Conservation & Natural Resources Have Summer, Other Intern Positions Open [PaEN]
-- Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps Now Accepting Applications From Young People For 2026 Season [PaEN]
-- Seven Winter Activities To Enjoy On Western PA Conservancy Preserves
-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: North Branch Land Trust Announces New Board Members, Online Experiences
-- Scranton Times: New Playground Completed At Hillside Park In Scranton
-- TribLive: McCandless Leaders Approve Master Site Development Plan For Community's Parks In Allegheny County
-- Inquirer - Frank Kummer: Why A Sinkhole On The Schuylkill River Trail In Philadelphia Hasn't Been Repaired Yet
-- Inquirer - Frank Kummer: Schuylkill Trail Sinkhole Repaired, Area Reopened For Christmas Eve 'As A Holiday Present'
-- Penn State Extension Hosts Feb. 18 Webinar On Biting Pests - Why Are There So Many

Ticks? [PaEN]

Recycling/Waste
-- LancasterOnline: Here's When, Where To Recycle Your Christmas Tree In Lancaster County
-- TribLive: Where To Recycle Your Live Christmas Tree In Westmoreland County
-- TribLive: Where To Recycle Your Christmas Trees In Allegheny County
-- TribLive: Annual Oakmont Christmas Tree Collection To Benefit Goats In Allegheny County
-- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: From Mulch To Fish Habitats, There Are Many Options For Natural Christmas Tree Recycling
-- WHYY: Your Philly Christmas Tree Could Get A 2nd Life Benefitting City Gardens, Trails And Even Goats
-- Post-Gazette/Inside Climate News: Tracking Oil & Gas Waste In Pennsylvania Is Still A 'Logistical Mess' [Part I]
-- WESA/Inside Climate News: 25 Years Into Shale Gas Fracking, Pennsylvania Has Yet To Reckon With Oil & Gas Industry's Radioactive Waste [Part II]
-- The Allegheny Front/Inside Climate News: The 'Toxic Cocktail' Brewing In Pennsylvania's Waterways: Abandoned Mine Drainage, Oil & Gas Industry Waste [Part III]
-- York Dispatch: Modern Landfill In York County Reduces Waste Intake While It Seeks To Delay Closing

Renewable Energy
-- Warren Times/AP: President's Return Brought Stiff Headwinds For Clean Energy, So Why Are Advocates Optimistic In 2026? [PDF of Article]
-- TribLive Letter: Approve Clean Energy Projects To Bring Down Price Of Electricity - By Mary Zuccaro, Carnegie
-- Williamsport Sun Guest Essay: Energy Future Shouldn't Be Held Hostage To Fossil Fuel Myths; Renewables Aren't The Reason For Soaring Energy Prices, Grid Fragility - By Douglas Webster, Monroeville [PDF of Article]
-- Wilkes-Barre Times-Leader Guest Essay: Pennsylvania Must Be Prepared To Meet Energy Challenges - By Tom Gilbert, PA Environmental Council
-- Morning Call Guest Essay: Pennsylvania Must Be Prepared To Meet Energy Challenges - By Tom Gilbert, PA Environmental Council
-- Reuters Commentary: Renewables With Batteries Produce Cheaper Energy Than Natural Gas; LNG Gas Exports Glut Turning Into A Sinkhole

Schuylkill River
-- WHYY: Why The Lower Schuylkill River Should Get Your Vote For PA River Of The Year
-- Inquirer - Frank Kummer: Why A Sinkhole On The Schuylkill River Trail In Philadelphia Hasn't Been Repaired Yet
-- Inquirer - Frank Kummer: Schuylkill Trail Sinkhole Repaired, Area Reopened For Christmas Eve 'As A Holiday Present'

Stormwater
-- Lancaster Gather & Grow Street Tree Grant Program Offering 500 Free Native Trees To Lancaster County Partners To Boost Tree Canopy, Improve Local Water Quality

Water Quality
-- TribLive - Jack Troy: Penalty Amount Against US Steel Over Water Pollution Raises Eyebrows For Environmental Groups: It's 'Laughable
-- DEP Posted 58 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In December 27 PA Bulletin [PaEN]
-- DEP Soliciting Information For Use In The Development Of The Next Triennial Review Of Water Quality Standards; Including Specifically For Copper [PaEN]
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Wildlife, Water Quality Depend On Streamside Forests
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal Guest Essay: From Pennsylvania To The Chesapeake Bay, Miles And Miles Of Precious Waterways - By John Montgomery, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
-- Lancaster Gather & Grow Street Tree Grant Program Offering 500 Free Native Trees To Lancaster County Partners To Boost Tree Canopy, Improve Local Water Quality
-- USDA NRCS-PA Pennsylvania State Technical Committee Meeting Jan. 22, 1:00 p.m.
-- TribLive: Stroud Water Research Center Study Of Water Contamination From Road Salt Flags Problems In Washington County
-- Morning Call: 3 Moravian Academy Students Found A.I.-Based Company To Detect Pollution In Construction Site Runoff [PDF of Article]

Watershed Protection
-- Republican Herald: Schuylkill Conservation District Celebrates 70th Year, Highlights Major Events Of 2025 [PDF of Article]
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Wildlife, Water Quality Depend On Streamside Forests
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal Guest Essay: From Pennsylvania To The Chesapeake Bay, Miles And Miles Of Precious Waterways - By John Montgomery, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay
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-- TribLive: Stroud Water Research Center Study Of Water Contamination From Road Salt Flags Problems In Washington County
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-- Morning Call: 3 Moravian Academy Students Found A.I.-Based Company To Detect Pollution In Construction Site Runoff [PDF of Article]
-- WHYY: Why The Lower Schuylkill River Should Get Your Vote For PA River Of The Year
-- Interns Wanted: Departments Of Environmental Protection, Conservation & Natural Resources Have Summer, Other Intern Positions Open [PaEN]
-- Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps Now Accepting Applications From Young People For 2026 Season [PaEN]
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Wildlife
-- PA Society For Ornithology Accepting Applications For Conservation Partner Organizations For The 2026 Breeding Bird Blitz [PaEN]
-- Centre Daily Times - Mark Nale: The Evening Grosbeak Is In Trouble; PA Researcher Hopes To Find Answers With Help Of Citizen Scientists [PDF of Article]
-- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: Fish & Boat, Game Commissions To Study Sharing Resources, Consolidation Of Functions
-- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: Fish Commission May Increase Size Limit To Keep Trout 2

Inches, Here's Why
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Wildlife, Water Quality Depend On Streamside Forests
-- Warren Times - Audubon Community Nature Center: Geometric Shapes In Nature [PDF of Article]
-- PennLive: Raven Ridge Wildlife Center Treats 7 Bald Eagles Suffering From Lead Poisoning In Lancaster County

West Nile/Zika Virus
-- Penn State Extension Hosts Feb. 18 Webinar On Biting Pests - Why Are There So Many Ticks? [PaEN]

Opportunities
-- Interns Wanted: Departments Of Environmental Protection, Conservation & Natural Resources Have Summer, Other Intern Positions Open [PaEN]
-- Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps Now Accepting Applications From Young People For 2026 Season [PaEN]

Top 10 Headlines From Harrisburg Last Week ----------

Because In Politics Everything Is Connected To Everything Else--

-- City & State PA: Pennsylvania 2025 Year In Review
-- Erie Times: A Look At New State Laws Taking Effect In Pennsylvania In 2026

-- Gov. Shapiro
-- AP: Explosions At Bucks County Nursing Home Kill At Least 2, Gov. Shapiro Says; Odor Of Natural Gas At The Site
-- WashPost Guest Essay: Gov. Shapiro Acted On Hair Discrimination, But Academic Achievement Gap Undermines Children's Futures - By Rev. Joshua C. Robertson, Rock Church In Harrisburg
-- Inquirer: Gov. Shapiro Schedules Book Tour As He Stands For Reelection, Builds His 2028 Profile
-- Beaver Times: Shapiro Set To Become Nation's Highest Paid Governor With 2026 Pay Hike

-- Race For Governor
-- ABC27: Republican Stacy Garrity's Campaign For Governor Turns To Streaming Video Production In Race Against Shapiro

-- Budget 2026
-- Independent Fiscal Office Projects $5 Billion State Budget Structural Deficit In Current Fiscal Year
-- Warren Times Editorial: State Fiscal Challenges Alarming
-- TribLive: State Reports Record High Monthly Gambling Revenue, Citing Rise In Sports Wagering Income
-- TribLive: Communities Reap Millions From Pennsylvania Gambling Revenue

-- PA House/Senate
-- TribLive Editorial: Taking Payraises For PA Lawmakers, State Officials Off Autopilot
-- PennLive: Former PA House Speaker Bryan Cutler Will Not Seek Reelection

-- US Senate/House

-- Statewide Offices
-- Attorney General Sunday Announces $6.6 Million Share For Pennsylvania From National Settlement In Mercedes-Benz Vehicle Emissions Fraud Case [PaEN]

-- 2025 Elections
-- Spotlight PA: At Least $18.4 Million Poured Into This Year's Critical PA Supreme Court Retention Races

-- 2026 Elections

-- Elections
-- TribLive: PA's Top Election Official Battles President's Dept. Of Justice Demand For Personal Voter Data
-- LancasterOnline: PA's List Of Wacky Political Party Names Signals Strong 3rd Party Impulse

-- National Elections

-- Protesting The President
-- TribLive Editorial: Every Day We Get To Choose Whether To Be Naughty Or Nice
-- Post-Gazette: PA Lawmakers Rankled By President's Order To Oppose State Regulation Of A.I.: 'We're Not Stopping'
-- Spotlight PA: Expanding Broadband In Rural PA Complicated By Federal Rule Changes, Uncertainty In 2025
-- TribLive Editorial: Broadband Decisions Must Outlast Politics
-- Inquirer Editorial: As Long As [REDACTED] Has His Thumb On The Scales Of Justice, The Epstein Files Were Always Going To Be [REDACTED]

-- PA Impacts Of President's Tariffs
-- The Guardian: US Farmers Say President's $12 Billion Package Not Enough To Undo Damage From His Tariffs

-- PA Impacts Of President's Policies
-- Post-Gazette: 1,000 Pennsylvanians Now Dropping Health Insurance Daily Due To Spiking Premiums Caused By Failure Of Republican Congress To Take Action
-- Post-Gazette: Skyrocketing Health Insurance Premiums Are Pushing Some To Extreme

Measures
-- Morning Call: How One Lehigh Valley Family Impacted By Spiking Health Insurance Costs Caused By Failure Of Republican Congress To Take Action
-- WHYY: With Health Insurance Sicker Shock Due To Failure Of Congressional Republicans To Act, Pennie Insurance Market Specialists Find Themselves On Front Lines Of PA Affordability Crisis
-- The Center Square: Pennsylvania Health Care In 2025 After Massive Policy Swings By Federal Government: Health Insurance Cost Soaring, Vaccines, More
-- WHYY: New Congressional Republican Food Stamp Requirements May End Your Benefits; Here's What You Need To Know
-- WESA: Federal Judge Quashes Subpoena From President's Justice Department For UPMC's Young Transgender Patient Records

-- New Federal Administration
-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader Guest Essay: Every Day Is Festivus At The White House - The Airing Of Grievances Holiday - By Sam Kazman, InsideSources.com

-- Federal Government

-- PA's Role In Assault On US Capitol

-- Miscellaneous State/Harrisburg Politics

-- A.I. /Data Centers
-- In Case You Missed It: A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - December 29 [PaEN]
-- Post-Gazette: PA Lawmakers Rankled By President's Order To Oppose State Regulation Of A.I.: 'We're Not Stopping'
-- Guest Essay: Lessons From A.I. Data Centers And Shale Gas Fracking Tours - By Scott Cannon, Luzerne County [PaEN]
-- PA Energy, Environmental, Citizen Advocates Call On PUC To Protect Ratepayers, Communities From Costs, Impacts Of A.I. Data Centers [PaEN]
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-- TribLive Letter: Approve Clean Energy Projects To Bring Down Price Of Electricity - By Mary Zuccaro, Carnegie

-- Reuters Commentary: Renewables With Batteries Produce Cheaper Energy Than Natural Gas; LNG Gas Exports Glut Turning Into A Sinkhole

-- International/National Impacts On PA Natural Gas
-- AAA Average Gasoline Prices: National- $2.84 Ohio- $2.78 PA- $3.07
-- Baker Hughes: PA Natural Gas Drilling Rigs-- 18-- Same For 5 Weeks
-- Guest Essay: Lessons From A.I. Data Centers And Shale Gas Fracking Tours - By Scott Cannon, Luzerne County [PaEN]
-- PA Energy, Environmental, Citizen Advocates Call On PUC To Protect Ratepayers, Communities From Costs, Impacts Of A.I. Data Centers [PaEN]
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-- Reuters Commentary: Renewables With Batteries Produce Cheaper Energy Than Natural Gas; LNG Gas Exports Glut Turning Into A Sinkhole
-- Appalachian Voices: FERC Approves Mountain Valley Pipeline Southgate Natural Gas Pipeline Expansion For VA, PA To North Carolina Over Objections, No Environmental Impact Statement
-- Pittsburgh Business Times: FERC Approves Major Changes To Mountain Valley Pipeline Southgate Route And Capacity
-- Financial Times: EU Spent Less On US Energy After $750 Billion Trade Deal With President

-- Flooding
-- Post-Gazette: Pittsburgh Region Continues To Be Haunted By 2025's Extreme Weather Events
-- Shapiro Administration Highlights Increases In Disaster Assistance Funding In Current Budget To Keep PA Communities, Residents Safe
-- Tribune-Democrat: PEMA Director Visits Somerset County To Highlight Increase In State Disaster Response Funds
-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: Federal Judge Blocks FEMA From Ending Disaster Mitigation Funding Program; Nearly $1 Billion Slated To Support Projects In Chesapeake Bay Watershed States

-- Clairton Coke [Coal] Works Explosion
-- TribLive: Federal Chemical Safety Board Makes 2 Interim Safety Recommendations Related To US Steel Clairton Coke [Coal] Works Explosion That Killed 2 Workers, Injured 11 Others
-- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: Federal Investigators Flag Safety Concerns During Ongoing Investigation Of US Steel Clairton Coke [Coal] Works Explosion

-- Gas Explosions
-- AP: Explosions At Bucks County Nursing Home Kill At Least 2, Gov. Shapiro Says; Odor Of Natural Gas At The Site

-- Inquirer: Bucks County Explosion: 2 Dead, 20 Hurt In Nursing Home Blast; Shapiro Says There Are 'A Lot Of Unanswered Questions'
-- AP: Rescuers Rushed Into Flames To Save Nursing Home Residents In Bucks County After Deadly Explosion

-- Train Derailments

-- Education
-- WashPost Guest Essay: Gov. Shapiro Acted On Hair Discrimination, But Academic Achievement Gap Undermines Children's Futures - By Rev. Joshua C. Robertson, Rock Church In Harrisburg
-- The Citizens Voice: Renewed Concerns Over School District Bathroom Policies Grip Northwest Area
-- Spotlight PA: Penn State Trustees Lost Access To Board's File-Sharing Service After Spotlight PA Records Request
-- TribLive: More Than 100 Academic Offerings On PennWest's Chopping Block

-- Health Care
-- Post-Gazette: Allegheny County Lawmakers Question State Contractor Delay In Delivering 3 Million Pieces Of Mail From State Agencies
-- Post-Gazette: 1,000 Pennsylvanians Now Dropping Health Insurance Daily Due To Spiking Premiums Caused By Failure Of Republican Congress To Take Action
-- Post-Gazette: Skyrocketing Health Insurance Premiums Are Pushing Some To Extreme Measures
-- Morning Call: How One Lehigh Valley Family Impacted By Spiking Health Insurance Costs Caused By Failure Of Republican Congress To Take Action
-- WHYY: With Health Insurance Sicker Shock Due To Failure Of Congressional Republicans To Act, Pennie Insurance Market Specialists Find Themselves On Front Lines Of PA Affordability Crisis
-- The Center Square: Pennsylvania Health Care In 2025 After Massive Policy Swings By Federal Government: Health Insurance Cost Soaring, Vaccines, More
-- AP: Allegheny County Implementing Involuntary Outpatient Mental Health Care Services
-- WESA: Federal Judge Quashes Subpoena From President's Justice Department For UPMC's Young Transgender Patient Records

-- Law Enforcement
-- Altoona Mirror Editorial: Time For Cameras In PA Courts

-- The Economy
-- TribLive: State Reports Record High Monthly Gambling Revenue, Citing Rise In Sports Wagering Income
-- TribLive: Communities Reap Millions From Pennsylvania Gambling Revenue
-- Spotlight PA: Expanding Broadband In Rural PA Complicated By Federal Rule Changes, Uncertainty In 2025
-- TribLive Editorial: Broadband Decisions Must Outlast Politics

-- WESA: US Supreme Court Hands Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Temporary Victory In Reporter Strike Case

-- Other

Archive Of Articles & NewsClips By Week ----------

-- 12.22.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 12.15.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 12.8.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 12.1.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.24.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.17.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.10.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.3.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 10.27.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
--10.20.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
--10.13.25 - No Digest
-- 10.6.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 9.29.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 9.22.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 9.15.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 9.8.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 9.1.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.25.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.18.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.11.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.4.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 7.28.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 7.21.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 7.14.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 7.7.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 6.30.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 6.23.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 6.16.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 6.9.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 6.2.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 5.26.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 5.19.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 5.12.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 5.5.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 4.28.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 4.21.25 - No PA Environment Digest
-- 4.14.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic

-- 4.7.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 3.31.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 3.24.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 3.17.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 3.10.25 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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--12.30.24 - No PA Environment Digest
-- 12.23.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 12.9.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 12.2.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.25.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.18.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.11.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 11.4.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 10.28.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 8.19.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.12.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.5.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 7.29.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 4.1.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 3.18.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 3.11.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 3.4.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 2.26.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 2.19.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 1.29.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 1.15.24 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 10.30.23 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 10.23.23 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 10.16.23 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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-- 8.28.23 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.21.23 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
-- 8.14.23 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic
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