



Issue #1,128

Harrisburg, PA

April 13, 2026

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153 New Stories - REAL Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA

Here are 153 new stories in the *PA Environment Digest* about individuals, groups, local governments, farmers, businesses, watershed groups and many more working all across Pennsylvania to restore and protect the environment and show others the beauty that surrounds us.

Thank you for your leadership!

-- WGAL8: [9th Generation Brothers Preserve Pennsylvania's Oldest Farm After 309 Years In Lancaster County](#)

-- PA Assn. [Of Environmental Educators Announce Recipients Of 2026 PAEE Awards, Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience Awards](#) [PaEN]

-- The Allegheny Front: [Profile: Carol Parenzan, From Environmental Engineer To 'Water Healer'](#)

-- Ayana Elizabeth Johnson [To Receive Dickinson College's Rose-Walters Prize for Environmental Activism](#) [PaEN]

-- WeConservePA: [Lebanon County Conservation District Recognizes Calvin Miller With Steward Of The Land Lifetime Award](#) [PaEN]

-- Morning Call Guest Essay: [Easter, Spring Weather Bring Thoughts Of Renewal And Gardening](#) - By George Ball, Chairman, PA-based [W. Atlee Burpee Company](#)

-- DCNR Kicks [Off America250PA GeoCache Trail Through 25 PA State Parks](#) [PaEN]

-- Gov. Shapiro, [America250PA Announce 5-City Commonwealth Free Concert Series Tour Celebrating Pennsylvania's Role Through 250 Years Of America](#)

-- Gov. Shapiro, [DCNR Announce Grand Opening Of Laurel Caverns State Park In Fayette County, Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Recycling Markets Center Study: [Recycling Industries Support Over 319,000 Jobs;](#)

[Contributes \\$130.5 Billion To The Economy - Over 3 Times That Of The Shale Gas Industry](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Bar Association Quarterly: [Examining The Evolution Of The PA Environmental Rights Amendment Through A Municipal Lens](#)

-- DEP: Wastewater [Spill At Repsol Oil & Gas USA Shale Gas Well Pad In Bradford County Results In Recovery Of 166,729 Gallons Of Contaminated Water, So Far](#) [PaEN]

-- Observer-Reporter: [Equitrans \[EQT\] Appeals Court Ruling Denying Request To Dismiss State Criminal Charges Involving A 2018 Greene County Methane House Explosion Causing Serious Burns To 3 People, Including a 4-Year Old](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: [DEP Fines Eureka Resources \\$100,000 For Oil & Gas Wastewater Spills, Other Violations In Bradford, Lycoming County](#)

-- DEP Hosts April 15 [Webinar On How To Do Trenchless Pipeline Construction Safely After Major Incidents In 2025 Causing The Release Of 1.2 Million Gallons Of Drilling Fluids Into Abandoned Mine Voids In Washington County](#). 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

-- Beaver County Residents [Tell DEP To Enforce Existing Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Pollution Limits, Not Give Them A New Permit Increasing Pollution](#) [PaEN]

-- WESA/Allegheny Front: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Draft Air Permit Finds Support, Opposition At DEP Hearing](#)

-- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: [DEP Hearing On Proposed Emission Limit Increases For Shell Petrochemical Plant A Temperature Check For Residents, Union Workers In Beaver County](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Public Source Pittsburgh: [DEP Hearing On Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Permit Brings Out Economic Benefits And Health, Compliance Concerns](#)

-- Beaver Times Guest Essay: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Has History Of Unfulfilled Promises](#) - By Elan Justice Pavlinich, [Environmental Health Project](#)

-- TribLive Letter: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Continues To Pollute](#) - By Clara Jane Mack, Oakland, Pittsburgh

-- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Invites [Comments On CNX Midstream Project To Prevent Damage To 4 Natural Gas Gathering Pipelines From Longwall Coal Mining In Greene County](#) [PaEN]

-- TribLive - Joe Napsha: [CNX Midstream Seeks To Tap Beaver Run Drinking Water Reservoir For Fracking Water In Westmoreland County](#)

-- PennLive Guest Essay: [PA Is One Of The World's Top Energy Producers, So Why Can't It Build Pipelines?](#) - By T.J. Rooney, Lobbyist, Tri State Strategies [DEP Permits Not The Problem; Pipelines Fined Over [\\$71 Million + Multiple Criminal Charges](#)] [Warning]

-- Utility Dive: [Supply Crunch For Natural Gas Power Plant Turbines Set To Raise Prices 195% By 2027; 5 Year Wait For Large Turbines, Report](#)

-- PUC PaOneCall [Damage Prevention Committee Imposes \\$169,750 In Penalties In 176 Disciplinary Actions Involving Underground Utility Violations](#)

-- TribLive Letter: [PA's Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fee An Example Of Effective Taxation](#) - By

Jeff Smith, Butler [For The Industry Only, Not As A Reliable Source Of Revenue To Pay Local Governments, Others For The Damage Done By The Industry]

-- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]

-- EPA Moves [To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]

-- Utility Dive: [US Dept. Of Energy Slashing Non-Defense Spending On Energy By Cutting 'Green New Scam Initiatives'](#) [Warning]

-- PA Solar Center, [Partners Host April 17 Webinar On How Energy Storage, Solar Energy Create Resilient Communities Featuring DEP's Report On Microgrids, Energy Storage](#) [PaEN]

-- Local Governments: [Apply To DEP's Community Energy Development Program By April 15 For Help In Developing Energy Transition Plans](#) [PaEN]

-- City Of Pittsburgh [To Develop Solar Energy Facility On Steel Slag Disposal Area In Swisshelm Park To Cut Energy Costs By \\$2.6 Million At 4 Public Schools](#) [PaEN]

-- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Pittsburgh Brownfields To Become Solar Energy Facility Powering 4 Schools](#)

-- TribLive: [Solar Energy Facility Planned In Swisshelm Park Would Power 4 Pittsburgh Public Schools](#)

-- TheDerrick.com: [Oil City Hears From Solar Energy Company On Proposed Installation Near High School In Venango County](#)

-- Altoona Mirror: [Logan Township Approves Solar Energy Facility Off Old Sixth Avenue Road](#)

-- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Green Group Gives Pennsylvania 'F' On Solar Energy Facility Permitting](#)

-- TribLive - Jack Troy: [GE Vernova, Maker Of Power Generation Equipment, Spends \\$70 Million On Rostraver Warehouse](#)

-- House Energy Committee [To Meet April 13 To Consider GeoThermal Energy, Advanced Transmission Line Technology, PA Energy Development Authority Bills; Sets April 14 Hearing On Net Metering](#) [PaEN]

-- Utility Dive: [Pennsylvania DEP Seeks Potential Fast-Track Energy Storage, Generation Projects In Response To PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#)

-- Tribune-Democrat: [DEP Seeks Proposals For Expedited Energy Projects To Buttress PJM Power Grid](#)

-- PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]

-- Bloomberg: [PJM Interconnection Announces Emergency Proposal Seeking 15 Gigawatts Of New Power Supplies To Address Potential Shortages Caused By A.I. Data Center Demand](#) [PaEN]

-- PJM Interconnection [Issues Hot Weather Alert For Mid-Atlantic \(Pennsylvania\), Southern Regions For April 14-15](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP To Hold [May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP](#)

[30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Invites [Comments On Air Quality Plan Approval To Reactivate Engines, Oil-Fired Boilers, Cooling Towers At Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant In Dauphin County](#) [PaEN]

-- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)

-- DEP: A.I. Data Center [Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County](#) [PaEN]

-- PUC Sets July 7 [Hearings On Greater Hazleton CAN DO Request To Supply 350,000 Gallons Of Recycled Water/Day To A Proposed A.I. Data Center Campus In The Humboldt Industrial Park, Luzerne County](#) [PaEN]

-- The Shenandoah Sentinel: [Hearings Set As PUC Considers Request To Provide Water Service To Hazleton Area A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- Scranton Times: [PPL Open House Now April 21 On Proposed Power Line/Substation Projects To Serve Proposed A.I. Data Center Projects In Archbald Boro](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Municipalities To Hold 5 A.I. Data Center Meetings, Hearings This Month: Archbald Boro, Olyphant Boro, Fell, Greenfield And Scott Townships](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center New York Developer Launches Campaign Touting Finances, Questioning Opponents Of The Project To Build 12 Data Centers Using 3.3 Million Gallons Of Water/Day, 1.6 GW Of Electricity](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developer's 'Charm Offensive' Bombs Badly](#) [PDF of Article]

-- [PA Data Center Hearings & Meetings](#) - Physicians For Social Responsibility PA

-- Wall Street Journal: [A.I. Giants Go On Charm Offensive To Avert Public Backlash](#) [Warning]

-- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - April 13](#) [PaEN]

-- WHYY: [Gov. Shapiro Calls PECO 's Proposed 12.5% Electric, 11.4% Natural Gas Increase 'Pure Greed'](#)

-- TribLive: [Duquesne Light Asks FERC To Lower PJM Price Cap From \\$325/MW/Day To The Current Floor Of \\$175/MW/Day To Save Customers \\$10/Month](#)

-- Inquirer: [Energy Prices Are Up, These Smart Moves Can Help Your Business Save Money](#)

-- AP: [President Promised To Cut Electric Bills In Half, Bills In Energy-Rich West Virginia Now Top Mortgages](#) [Warning]

-- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN] [Warning]

-- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President's Proposed Budget Cuts](#) [Warning]

-- LancasterOnline: [Lancaster Republicans See Statewide Temporary Tax Cuts As Key To Making Life More Affordable](#) [Rather Than Changing The Federal Policies That Are Jacking Up Prices Of Everything]

-- **April 12:** [PA Average AAA Gasoline Price Drops 1 Cent From Yesterday, Now \\$1.04/Gallon](#)

[Higher To \\$4.15 Since Feb. 27](#) [Crawford County, PA highest at \$4.389]

-- **April 6:** Neighborhood Sheetz Gasoline Price Jumped 20 Cents More/Gallon In One Day to \$4.39

-- **April 12:** [Average AAA Gasoline Prices: National- \\$4.12 Ohio- \\$3.86 PA- \\$4.15](#)

-- Feb. 27: Average AAA Gasoline Prices: National- \$2.98 Ohio- \$2.79 PA- \$3.11

-- Warren Times: [Warren County Still Has Highest Gasoline Prices In The State](#) [Home of conventional oil industry]

-- PA Capital-Star: [Diesel Prices Continue To Climb, Hitting PA Wallets, Businesses](#)

-- York Daily Record: [As Fuel Costs Rise, So Does Uncertainty In Minds Of Manufacturers](#)

-- AP: [Largest Monthly Jump In Gasoline Prices In 60 Years Lead To Biggest US Monthly Inflation Spike In 4 Years- 3.3%](#) [Warning]

-- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President's War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#) [Warning]

-- Wall Street Journal: [US Natural Gas Exporter Venture Global Pulls In Billions During Iran War Energy Shocks](#)

-- Reuters: [World Is Lining Up For Russian Oil, Natural Gas As A Result Iran War Energy Crisis](#)

-- NYT: [It Will Take Months To Get Oil And Natural Gas Flowing Again From The Gulf](#)

-- EPA, FBI, [Other Federal Agencies Issue Cybersecurity Advisory To Water Systems As A Result Of The President's War On Iran](#)

-- Post-Gazette/AP: [President's EPA Proposes Gutting Rules Targeting Coal Plant Ash Pollution That Threatens Groundwater](#)

-- NRDC: [EPA Proposes To Weaken Safeguards Against Coal Ash Pollution In Groundwater](#)

-- EPA [Proposes More Changes To Disposal Of Coal Combustion Residuals And Beneficial Use Requirements](#)

-- DEP: Hazardous Sites [Cleanup Act Brings Clean Drinking Water To Community In Lancaster County Contaminated By Trichloroethylene \(TCE\); Future Cleanup Funding In Doubt](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP To Hold [May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge](#) [PaEN]

-- DCED Awards [\\$125,625 Grant To Bucks County Redevelopment Authority To Make A Site Safe For New Residential Development In Sellersville Borough](#) [PaEN]

-- WHYY: [Philadelphia Could Extend Controversial Chester Trash Incineration Contract Amid Criticism](#)

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [DEP Holds Public Meeting On Proposed Waste Transfer Station In Hazleton](#)

-- Independence Conservancy [To Hold 3 Waste Tire Collection Events In Allegheny, Beaver Counties Starting April 25](#) [PaEN]

-- DailyLocal.com: ['I Can't Stand Litter:' Chester County Employees Among Crew Cleaning Up 'Filthy' Caln Road](#)

-- DEP: Recent [Precipitation Leads To Improved Drought Conditions, But Additional Recovery](#)

[Is Needed](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP State Water Plan [Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Capital-Star: [President's ICE Has Appealed DEP Orders Requiring Sewage, Drinking Water Plans For Proposed Warehouse Detention Centers In Berks, Schuylkill County](#) [Warning]

-- PA Capital-Star: [President's Dept. Of Homeland Security/ICE Scales Back Plans For Maryland Warehouse Detention Center To 542 Not 1,500 Immigrants - For Now](#)

-- [TheDerrick.com: Knox Agrees To Settlement With DEP Over Wastewater Plant Violations](#)

-- Volunteers, Fish & Boat [Commission, DEP Stock Trout In Conowingo Creek, Lancaster County Restored With Help Of State, Federal Funding; New Grant Round Opens April 22](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP/Environmental Quality Board [Withdraws Proposed Regulation Changing Notification Requirements For Spills, Releases Saying Technical Guidance Is More Appropriate](#) [PaEN]

-- Stroud Water Research Center: [New Clean Water Partnership With University Of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School At New Bolton Center; Bringing Back Eastern Brook Trout; LaMotte Company Honored](#) [PaEN]

-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: [Research Shows Chesapeake Bay Watershed Streams Are Getting Saltier](#)

-- DEP Invites [Submission Of Water Quality Data For Evaluation Of 34 Wild Trout Stream Designations In 19 Counties](#) [PaEN]

-- Penn State Extension, [Tri-County Conewago Creek Assn. Hold April 25 Volunteer Riparian Buffer Planting](#) In Elizabethtown, Lancaster County. 1:00 p.m.

-- Courier Express: [Toby Creek Watershed Assn. Highlights Abandoned Mine Drainage Treatment Efforts In Jefferson County](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Scranton Plans 2 More Stormwater Projects In Flood-Prone Keyser Valley Using COVID Recovery Funds](#)

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [Rain Garden Construction Underway At Luzerne County's Operations Building In Wyoming](#)

-- FOX43: [Chesapeake Bay Foundation Gives Students Hands-On Education On The Conodoguinet Creek](#)

-- Susquehanna River [Basin Commission Releases 2025 Annual Report Highlighting Data Center, Natural Gas Water Use, Climate Change, Road Salt Study, More](#) [PaEN]

-- Post-Gazette: [Sustainable Sip-Off Brings Together Regional Breweries For A Competition During Pittsburgh NFL Draft Week](#)

-- Pennsylvania Invests [More Than \\$10.2 Million To Ensure 31 Farms, 2,645 Acres Of Prime Farmland In 20 Counties Stay Farms Forever](#) [PaEN]

-- Inside Climate News: [US Department Of Agriculture Lost 21% Of Its Workforce In 2025](#) [Warning]

-- Williamsport Sun: [US Forest Service To Shutdown Williamsport Office Involved In Research On Forest Health, Sustainable Management](#) [Warning]

- Inside Climate News: [President's Budget Proposes Massive Cuts For Environmental Programs \[Again\] \[Warning\]](#)
- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Businesses, Individuals Who Paid The President's Illegal Tariffs May Be Able To Start Applying For \\$166 Billion In Refunds By April 20](#)
- PA Resources Council: [Celebrate Earth Day By Attending PRC's April Events On Backyard Composting, Native Plants, Recycling And Waste Reduction, Much More](#)
- Pennypack Ecological [Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension, [Tri-County Conewago Creek Assn. Hold April 25 Volunteer Riparian Buffer Planting](#) In Elizabethtown, Lancaster County. 1:00 p.m.
- FCFreePressPA.com: [Buttonwood Nature Center Presents 35th Earth Day Celebration April 25 In Franklin County](#)
- Warren Times: [Allegheny National Forest To Host April 18 Invasive Plant Removal Earth Day Event](#)
- TribLive: [Free Earth Day Celebration Set At Bradford Woods Reserve April 25, Allegheny County](#)
- PennLive: [From Cuddling Goats To Exploring Caves, Earth Day Events Bloom Across Central PA](#)
- DCNR [Forecast For April 11 Shows Higher Wildfire Danger Levels In Southern Half Of Pennsylvania](#)
- PennLive: [Wildfire Season Is Here: Why Spring Is So Dangerous In PA And How You Can Help](#)
- TribLive: [Forecasters Caution Of Wildfire Risk In Allegheny County](#)
- The Allegheny Front: [Is The Rare PA Hawthorn Tree Ready For Its Moment In The Sun?](#)
- Wildlands Conservancy [Brings Prescribed Fire Back To Maple Tract Preserve In Monroe County](#)
- Wildlands Conservation April 17 [Eco-Tour Of The Maple Tract Preserve Prescribed Burn Tract](#) In Monroe County
- TribLive: [Volunteers Replace 10 Invasive Trees With Native Ones Along Freeport Road In Blawnox, Allegheny County](#)
- TribLive: [Small Space, Big Environmental Impact: Aspinwall Resident To Plant Public Pollinator Garden In Allegheny County](#)
- DCNR Resource News: [Laurel Caverns State Park Opening; Volunteer Opportunities; Replace Invasive Plants, Much More!](#)
- Observer-Reporter: [Laurel Caverns Becomes First Subterranean State Park In PA](#)
- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: [Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park Opens To Public](#)
- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: [Longtime Owners Of Laurel Caverns Trust DCNR To Take Care Of Natural Attraction As State Park](#)
- Post-Gazette Editorial: [Laurel Caverns Belongs To All Pennsylvanians](#)
- Lt. Gov. Davis, [DCNR Turn On Point State Park Fountain After \\$3.4 Million In Park Upgrades Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)

- WESA: [Point State Park Water Fountain Flows After \\$3.4 Million Upgrade Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)
- DCNR Grants News: [McCahill Park Improves Recreation, Stormwater Management; Lumber Region Anniversary; Open Space A Catalyst For Community Impact Webinar](#)
- DCNR LinkedIn: [Recognizing The Impact Of Conservation Volunteers On Pennsylvania's Public Lands](#) - By DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn [[PDF of Article](#)]
- Take Five [Fridays With Pam, PA Parks & Forests Foundation, Now Available](#)
- Help Wanted: [PA Environmental Council Mapping/Program Coordinator](#) [PaEN]
- PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
- WESA: [Ticks, Lyme Disease Are The Backyard Threat SW PA Homeowners Keep Ignoring](#)
- ClearWater Conservancy [Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes](#) [PaEN]
- Tribune-Democrat: [Cambria Recreation Authority To Celebrate Completion Of Ghost Town Trail Loop](#)
- WHYY: [Progress Report On Project To Build A Park Over I-95 At Penns Landing In Philadelphia](#)
- TheDerrick.com: [Cranberry Twp. Joins Other Communities In Adopting Ordinance Allowing ATV, UTVs To Ride On Designated Public Roads](#)
- ABC6: [Families Mourn 2 Fire Chiefs Killed Riding UTV On Public Road In Berks County By A DUI Driver](#)
- WHYY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#) [Warning]
- Game Commission: [Highlights From April 11 Game Commission Board Meeting](#)
- DEP Falcon Cam: [The Hatch Watch Is On! Rachel Carson Building Peregrine Falcons Have A Clutch Of 5 Eggs That May Start Hatching April 29](#) [Watch Live]
- WHYY: [Scarlet Tanagers Proposed As PA's Official Migratory Bird: 'The Jewels Of The Forest'](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Birdwatching 'Nest' Planned For Lake Somerset](#)

Visit the [PA Environment Digest](#) website to learn more.

REAL Leadership:

- [153 New Stories - REAL Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA](#)
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 - [89 New Stories - REAL Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA](#)
 - 6,365 Stories In 2025 - [Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA](#)
 - 5,895 Stories In 2024 - [Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA](#)
 - 4,258 Stories In 2023 - [Environmental & Conservation Leadership PA](#)
 - 3,190 Stories In 2022 - [Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA](#)
- [Posted: April 12, 2026]

Stories You May Have Missed Last Week: PA Environment & Energy Articles & NewsClips By Topic - April 13

PA Environment Digest Puts Links To The Best Environment & Energy Articles and NewsClips From Last Week Here By Topic--

- **4.13.26 - PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic**



Other Handy Groups Of Articles & NewsClips From This Week--

- 153 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 - April 13](#) [PaEN]
- Top 10 Stories: [Harrisburg/PA Politics Reported By Local News Media Last Week](#) [PaEN]

Are You Telling Your Story? Send articles, comments to: PaEnviroDigest@gmail.com.

[CLICK HERE to View or Print the April 13 PA Environment Digest.](#)

Photo:

- PA Assn. [Of Environmental Educators Announce Recipients Of 2026 PAEE Awards, Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience Awards](#) [PaEN]
- [Posted: April 12, 2026]

PA Assn. Of Environmental Educators Announce Recipients Of 2026 PAEE Awards,

Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience Awards

The [PA Association of Environmental Educators](#) recently announced the recipients of the 2026 PAEE Awards and the Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience Awards at their annual conference in Gettysburg.

PAEE Awards

The annual awards are an important way that environmental educators in Pennsylvania can recognize one another and celebrate the great work that is happening throughout the state.

The honorees are--

- **Keystone Award:** Mark McLaughlin, [Shaver's Creek Environmental Education Center](#), Huntingdon County
- **Outstanding Environmental Education Program Award:** [Wildlife Leadership Academy](#), educating student Conservation Ambassadors
- **Outstanding Environmental Educator Award:** Natalie Reese, [Westmoreland Cleanways & Recycling](#)
- **Outstanding Contribution to EE Award:** Ken Hamilton, [GreenAllies](#), empowering students to lead
- **Daisy S. Klinedinst Memorial Award:** Sara Wetting, DCNR Presque Isle State Park
- **Government Partner Award:** Kody Brittingham, [Bristol Township Environmental Advisory Committee](#), Bucks County
- **Business Partner Award:** [LaMotte Company](#), a leader in water testing since 1919 operating in 75 countries based in Newark, DE

[Click Here for more on each award winner.](#)

Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience Awards

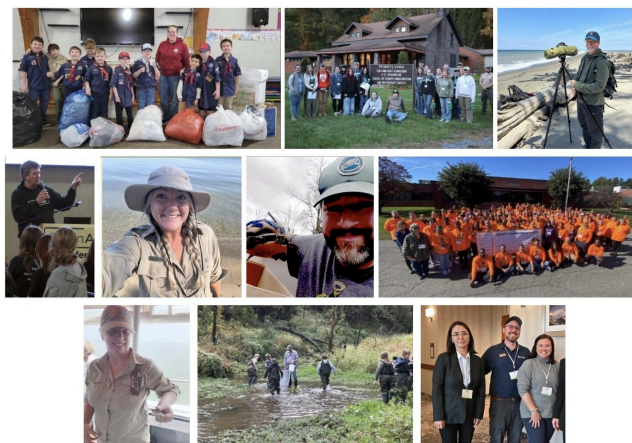
The MWEE Partner of Excellence and the MWEE School of Excellence Award are two annual awards intended to celebrate outstanding support of and/or implementation of the Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience (MWEE) in PA.

The honorees are--

- **MWEE School of Excellence:** [Saint Patrick Catholic School](#), Machele Lynch, Carlisle, Cumberland County
- **MWEE Partner of Excellence:** Penn State University Outreach, [Amanda Smith](#), [Aikumis Serikbayeva](#) and [Peter Boger](#)

[Click Here for more on each award winner.](#)

For more information on programs, initiatives, resources and other upcoming events, visit the [PA Association of Environmental Educators](#) website. [Click Here](#) to sign up for the PAEE newsletter (bottom of page, left). [Click Here](#) to become a member. [Click Here](#) to support PAEE's work.



(Photos: Row 1- Natalie Reese, Westmoreland Cleanways & Recycling; Wildlife Leadership

Academy; Mark McLaughling, Shaver's Creek; Row 2- Ken Hamilton, GreenAllies; Sara Wettekin, DCNR Presque Isle State Park; Kody Brittingham, Bristol Twp. EAC; Row 3-- Saint Patrick Catholic School, Machele Lynch; Penn State Outreach - Amanda Smith, Aikumis Serikbayeva and Peter Boger.)

[Posted: April 9, 2026]

WeConservePA: Lebanon County Conservation District Recognizes Calvin Miller With Steward Of The Land Lifetime Award

The [Lebanon County Conservation District](#) recently recognized Calvin Miller with the Steward of the Land Lifetime Award during the inaugural banquet to honor conservation and farmland preservation efforts in Lebanon County.

Miller, a life-long farmer, also served for more than 40 years on the Lebanon Conservation District Board.

[Click Here to read a profile of Mr. Miller](#)

written by James Mentzer of LebTown.

Lebanon County also celebrated reaching the milestone of preserving 21,234 acres of farmland over 33 years in the county. [Read more here in LebTown.](#)

For more information on programs, initiatives and upcoming events, visit the [WeConservePA](#) website, [Click Here](#) to sign up for regular updates from WeConservePA, [Like them on Facebook](#), and [Follow them on Twitter](#). [Click Here](#) to support their work.

The 2026 [PA Land Conservation Conference](#) will be held April 29 to May 1 in Lancaster. More than 114,800 Pennsylvanians contribute to local land trusts.



(Photo: Calvin Miller, center; receives the Steward of the Land Lifetime Award, with LCCD staff members Klarissa Long and Hannah Hartman, board member James Tomanelli, and Maranda Smith, staff. (LebTown file photo))

[Posted: April 7, 2026]

Ayana Elizabeth Johnson To Receive Dickinson College's Rose-Walters Prize for Environmental Activism



Marine biologist, policy expert, writer and teacher [Ayana Elizabeth Johnson](#) will receive [The Sam Rose '58 and Julie Walters Prize for Global Environmental Activism](#) at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Cumberland County.

This annual \$100,000 prize is awarded to individuals or organizations significantly impacting responsible action for the planet and its people. Johnson will be honored with this prestigious award during [Dickinson's Commencement](#) ceremony on Sunday, May 17.

Johnson is co-founder of [Urban Ocean Lab](#), a think tank for the future of coastal cities, and is the Roux Distinguished Scholar at Bowdoin

College.

She authored The New York Times bestseller [*What If We Get it Right?: Visions of Climate Futures*](#), work that is carried on with her newsletter and podcast of the same name.

Previously, she co-edited the climate anthology *All We Can Save*, co-founded [The All We Can Save Project](#), and co-created and co-hosted the Spotify/Gimlet climate solutions podcast [How to Save a Planet](#).

She also co-authored the [Blue New Deal](#), a policy roadmap for addressing climate challenges facing the ocean.

As executive director of the nonprofit [Waitt Institute](#), she co-founded the [Blue Halo Initiative](#) and led the Caribbean's first successful island-wide ocean zoning effort.

Early in her career, she developed U.S. federal ocean policy at the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Johnson earned a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University in environmental science and public policy and a Ph.D. from Scripps Institution of Oceanography in marine biology.

She serves on the board of directors for Patagonia and GreenWave and on the advisory board of Environmental Voter Project.

Recent recognitions include the Schneider Award for Outstanding Climate Communication and the TIME Earth Award.

Her writing has been published widely, including in the New York Times, WIRED and Rolling Stone.

She is the proud daughter of a teacher/farmer and an architect/potter.

Above all: Ayana is in love with climate solutions.

The Rose-Walters Prize recognizes Johnson's accomplishments and provides opportunities for Dickinson students and faculty.

During the 2026-27 academic year, Johnson will visit Dickinson for a multi-day residency.

Previously, the Rose-Walters Prize has honored climate advocates including Armond Cohen, Katharine Hayhoe and Tara Houska and organizations including the Natural Resources Defense Council and Environmental Defense Fund.

Visit the Dickinson College [Sam Rose '58 and Julie Walters Prize for Global Environmental Activism](#) webpage for more information.

[Posted: April 6, 2026]

Gov. Shapiro, DCNR Announce Grand Opening Of Laurel Caverns State Park In Fayette County, Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park

On April 6, Gov. Josh Shapiro and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn announced the opening of [Laurel Caverns State Park](#) with local leaders in Fayette County.

[Click Here for video and photos from the event.](#)

Now the 125th state park and first subterranean state park in Commonwealth



history, the Caverns will help expand Pennsylvania's outdoor recreation economy which contributed \$20.4 billion to Pennsylvania's economy in 2024 and supported approximately 177,000 jobs.

Pennsylvania's outdoor recreation industry is made up of 6,400 local parks — including 125 state parks — more than 14,000 miles of trails, and over 84,000 miles of waterways.

Under the Shapiro Administration's leadership, the industry has added \$3.5 billion and approximately 12,000 new jobs to the Commonwealth's economy.

"Parks like Laurel Caverns give our kids a new place to learn, our families a place to make memories, and all of us a chance to get away, take a breath, and just enjoy nature," **said Governor Shapiro**. "Pennsylvania's state parks are an incredible asset to our Commonwealth and our economy – and when we invest in outdoor recreation, we not only create good paying jobs, but by bringing people together, we also invest in the wellbeing of our neighbors and the future of our Commonwealth."

Approximately 50 miles from Pittsburgh, Laurel Caverns is a 435-acre park centered around the largest and deepest limestone cave in Pennsylvania, which includes four miles of wide cave passages that go as deep as 476 feet and the largest bat shelter in the Northeast.

The Caverns attract 50,000 annual visitors and will officially reopen to the public on Earth Day, April 22, to remain open until October.

"Pennsylvania's state parks are already second to none and we are improving the system with this addition of Laurel Caverns State Park," **said DCNR Secretary Adams Dunn**. "We are excited to open this new park and welcome all visitors to experience the uniqueness of our 125th state park up close—whether it's the hiking trails and recreational opportunities, or the geological splendor of the caverns."

DCNR plans to make initial upgrades to enhance visitors' experiences at the park, with several improvements currently underway, including electrical upgrades; improved accessibility in parking spaces, entryways, and bathrooms; and routine updates to the foundation and structural system of the visitor center.

"Right here in our backyard, we have one of the most unique natural attractions in the country," **said Fayette County Commissioner Vince Vicites**. "Laurel Caverns already brings about 50,000 visitors each year and today's designation will help bring even more — that means more support for our local businesses, restaurants, and workforce. This is a major win for Fayette County."

"Every day, we welcome so many people to the county and today builds on momentum to give people another reason to visit, to explore, and to really impact our local economy," **said Muriel Nuttall, Executive Director of the Fayette Chamber of Commerce**. "With Laurel Caverns' state park designation, we're adding something that is truly one of a kind to Fayette County."

The Caverns' state park designation — Pennsylvania's first since 2022 — was made possible through the park's donation to the Commonwealth by David and Lilian Cale who created the Laurel Caverns Conservancy to manage the park's operations in 1986 after David's family opened the park in 1964.

"Our state parks are rich in history and have some of the most dedicated community members to help the parks thrive," **said Corie Eckman, Park Manager of Laurel Caverns State Park**. "Thanks to the Cale Family, the Laurel Caverns have allowed generations of visitors to experience the beauty beneath its surface and it has been my privilege to help in the park's

transition to the Commonwealth.”

Like all Pennsylvania state parks, entrance and participation in recreational activities such as hiking, birding, and picnicking will remain free at the Caverns, but fees to enter the cave for one of five guided or self-guided tours will remain in place throughout the 2026 season as management transitions to DCNR.

Visit DCNR’s [Laurel Caverns State Park](#) webpage for more information.

[Click Here for video and photos from the event.](#)

[Click Here for Gov. Shapiro's announcement.](#)

Visit [Explore PA Trails](#) and [Get Outdoors PA](#) for recreation areas near you.

Visit the [PA Parks & Forests Foundation’s Events](#) webpage and [DCNR’s Calendar of Events](#) for activities happening near you.

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Related Articles This Week:

-- DCNR Kicks [Off America250PA GeoCache Trail Through 25 PA State Parks](#) [PaEN]

-- Gov. Shapiro, [America250PA Announce 5-City Commonwealth Free Concert Series Tour Celebrating Pennsylvania’s Role Through 250 Years Of America](#)

-- Gov. Shapiro, [DCNR Announce Grand Opening Of Laurel Caverns State Park In Fayette County, Pennsylvania’s First Underground State Park](#) [PaEN]

-- Lt. Gov. Davis, [DCNR Turn On Point State Park Fountain After \\$3.4 Million In Park Upgrades Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)

-- DCNR Resource News: [Laurel Caverns State Park Opening; Volunteer Opportunities; Replace Invasive Plants, Much More!](#)

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-- DCNR LinkedIn: [Recognizing The Impact Of Conservation Volunteers On Pennsylvania’s Public Lands](#) - By DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn [PDF of Article]

-- Take Five [Fridays With Pam, PA Parks & Forests Foundation, Now Available](#)

-- ClearWater Conservancy [Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes](#) [PaEN]

-- Pennypack Ecological [Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County](#) [PaEN]

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-- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: [Longtime Owners Of Laurel Caverns Trust DCNR To Take Care Of Natural Attraction As State Park](#)

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 - Tribune-Democrat: [Birdwatching 'Nest' Planned For Lake Somerset](#)
 - PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
 - WHYY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#)
- [Posted: April 6, 2026]

DCNR Kicks Off America250PA GeoCache Trail Through 25 PA State Parks



On April 10, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn announced the DCNR [America250PA GeoTrail](#) at Codorus State Park in York County. Created in honor of America's 250th anniversary, the GeoTrail leads visitors to 25 state parks where themed geocaches reveal stories from Pennsylvania's past through a technology-driven scavenger hunt.

The DCNR America250PA GeoTrail will launch Saturday, April 11, and run through March 2028.

For details on how to participate, including coordinates, rules, and park information, visit the DCNR [America250PA GeoTrail](#) webpage.

"America's story lives on Pennsylvania's land, and DCNR has long conserved the parks, forests, and historic landscapes where that story was written," **said Secretary Dunn**. "This anniversary year, we are proud to join America250PA in celebrating that legacy through education, conservation, and public events."

"Through initiatives like the DCNR America250PA GeoTrail, we are creating new opportunities for Pennsylvanians to connect with the places that shaped our nation. And as we honor the past, we are investing in the future to ensure these lands remain protected and accessible for generations to come."

Participants will discover Pennsylvania's rich history through its state park system by joining this technology-driven scavenger hunt.

Called geocaching, this free activity begins by entering the coordinates provided on DCNR's website into any GPS-enabled device.

From there, hike through one of the 25 participating state parks to search for a hidden container or cache.

Each park features a unique cache that highlights a piece of Pennsylvania history that occurred at the park.

Visit all 25 parks and find all 25 caches to receive a completion coin.

“Pennsylvania’s story lives in its landscapes—in the places where people worked, played, and helped shape the nation,” **said Cassandra Coleman, Executive Director, America250PA.**

“The DCNR America250PA GeoTrail invites people to explore our state parks in a new way, connecting history and the outdoors through discovery and hands-on experience. As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States, this initiative helps bring our shared history to life and helps ensure that every corner of Pennsylvania has a place in this milestone.”

Located in the [Susquehanna National Heritage Area](#), the [Codorus State Park](#) geocache highlights the Mary Ann Furnace, built in 1762 by George Stevenson, George Ross—who later signed the Declaration of Independence—and William Thompson, who together established what is believed to be the first charcoal furnace constructed west of the Susquehanna River.

The furnace produced items such as pans, kettles, utensils, and five plate stoves, and later supplied cannonballs and grapeshot for the Continental Army.

Although no structures remain, artifacts including an original five plate stove are displayed at the park’s visitor center.

The founders of Mary Ann Furnace went on to play influential roles in the development of the United States, making this site an important piece of early Pennsylvania history.

Participating State Parks & Geocache Themes

[Beltzville](#) – The Walking Purchase

[Benjamin Rush](#) – Patriot Physician - Geocache is ADA Accessible

[Black Moshannon](#) – From Trail to Turnpike

[Codorus](#) – Mary Ann Furnace

[Chapman](#) – Bridge to the Past

[Cook Forest](#) – Old Growth Forests

[Elk Country Visitor Center](#) – American Elk

[French Creek](#) – Life of Collier

[Fort Washington](#) – War Defenses

[Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center](#) – Colonial Government

[Jennings Environmental Education Center](#) – Frontier Remnants

[Kings Gap Environmental Education Center](#) – Colliers Cache

[Little Buffalo](#) – Juniata Iron Furnace

[Lyman Run](#) – From Lumber to Park

[Moraine](#) – Liberty Tree

[Ohiopyle](#) – Washington’s Raft - Geocache is ADA Accessible

[Oil Creek](#) – The Oil Boom

[Pine Grove Furnace](#) – Peak into Iron Making

[Point State Park](#) – Whiskey Rebellion - Opens May 1

[Presque Isle](#) – The Harbor

[Ryerson Station](#) – Dangers of Frontier Life

[Shawnee](#) – Road to Revolution

[Sinnemahoning](#) – Early Surveyors

[Washington Crossing Historic Park](#) – Soldiers at War

[White Clay Creek Preserve](#) – Building State Lines

With more than 14,000 miles of trails, 6,400 local parks, 125 state parks, and 2.2 million acres of forest land, all of which are free and open to the public, Pennsylvania boasts one of the largest public trail systems in the eastern U.S. — positioning the Commonwealth as a leader in four-season recreation, and a hub for active tourism.

Pennsylvania's state parks and forests are also home to some of the nation's most significant historic sites, including Point State Park's French and Indian War history, Washington Crossing's Revolutionary War legacy, and Presque Isle's ties to the War of 1812.

In addition to these well-known places, DCNR also stewards many lesser-known historic features across public lands, from early industrial structures to cemeteries and cultural landscapes that help tell the story of Pennsylvania's past.

[Click Here for the DCNR announcement.](#)

Visit [Explore PA Trails](#) and [Get Outdoors PA](#) for recreation areas near you.

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- PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
- WHY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#)

[Posted: April 12, 2026]

DEP: Wastewater Spill At Repsol Oil & Gas USA Shale Gas Well Pad In Bradford County Results In Recovery Of 166,729 Gallons Of Contaminated Water, So Far

On March 24 at 11:32 a.m., Repsol Oil and Gas USA LLC [notified DEP they discovered a spill](#) of about 630 gallons of production wastewater at 6:00 a.m. that morning from its Ugliuzza shale gas well pad in Pike Township, Bradford County.

At about 3:25 p.m. that same day, Repsol contacted DEP again and said about 18,900 gallons had been released.

The initial investigation showed an improperly connected hose near wastewater tanks on the pad was hanging over the secondary containment structure causing water to go into a stormwater ditch.

The spill happened, Repsol said, while five tank trucks containing 4,620 gallons each were delivering wastewater to the site for use in fracking wells. The first truck arrived at about 10:18 p.m. on March 23.

It was not until the fifth tank truck started off-loading at about 6:15 a.m. on March 24 the release was discovered and off-loading was stopped.

The wastewater traveled 1,143 feet downhill through a stormwater ditch, into a stormwater basin, through a drainage pipe, into a natural channel and finally into Rockwell Creek.

DEP arrived onsite March 25 at about 9:30 a.m. to start the incident inspection.



Repsol reported that as of about 7:00 a.m. that morning, its remediation contractor had recovered about 10,500 gallons of contaminated fluid from the stormwater channel and the basin and efforts were continuing.

Sumps were constructed inside and outside the stormwater basin to collect contaminated water so it could be recovered and removed for proper disposal.

DEP staff took samples to document the flow of the wastewater from where it was discharged from secondary containment to where it entered Rockwell Creek.

The [March 25 DEP inspection report](#) contained multiple violations related to the spill.

DEP contacted Repsol [by phone on March 26](#) and the company reported the Fish and Boat Commission had been onsite later on March 25 for their initial evaluation.

Repsol said the Commission “will be assessing a penalty and will be visiting the site again.”

Due to forecasted precipitation, Repsol said they planned to have the stormwater basin completely cleaned out and blocked so it will not release any more water.

On [April 1, DEP did an onsite inspection](#) after some rain. About 2,520 gallons of contaminated water was recovered that day and operations were continuing.

DEP walked the areas impacted by the spill and took field conductivity measurements.

DEP did a [follow-up inspection on April 9](#) and found an additional sump was installed down the hill from the release point to recover fluids.

Contaminated fluids were still being recovered at various points along the path taken by the release of wastewater, including in the stormwater basin that was now lined with plastic sheeting to allow for fluid recovery on top and underneath the liner.

As of April 6, Repsol reported recovering 166,729 gallons of contaminated fluid from the site (the most recent number available in DEP inspection reports).

Repsol’s remediation contractor will be continuing to screen and sample ten monitoring points along the path of the spill twice a week and recover any contaminated water.

All violations were continued.

Report Violations

To report oil and gas violations or any environmental emergency or complaint, visit [DEP’s Environmental Complaint](#) webpage.

Text photos and the location of abandoned wells to 717-788-8990.

Check These Resources

Visit DEP’s [Compliance Reporting Database](#) and [Inspection Reports Viewer](#) webpages to search their compliance records by date and owner.

Sign up for [DEP’s eNOTICE](#) service which sends you information on oil and gas and other permits submitted to DEP for review in your community.

Use DEP’s [Oil and Gas Mapping Tool](#) to find if there are oil and gas wells near or on your property and to find wells using latitude and longitude on well inspection reports.

(Photos: Row 1-- Release point from hose; Traveled down a stormwater ditch; Sump after stormwater basin; Spill enters Rockwell Creek; Row 2- April 1 contaminated water in stormwater ditch; Recovery of contaminated water in now lined stormwater basin; Point of release now remediated.)

[**Note:** If you believe your company was listed in error, contact [DEP’s Oil and Gas Program](#).]

[**Note:** These may not be all the NOV's issued to oil and gas companies during this time period. Additional inspection reports may be added to DEP's [Oil and Gas Compliance Database](#).]

PA Oil & Gas Industry Public Notice Dashboards:

- DEP: Wastewater [Spill At Repsol Oil & Gas USA Shale Gas Well Pad In Bradford County Results In Recovery Of 166,729 Gallons Of Contaminated Water, So Far](#) [PaEN]
- **PA Oil & Gas** [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - April 11](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP To Hold [May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP Invites [Comments On CNX Midstream Project To Prevent Damage To 4 Natural Gas Gathering Pipelines From Longwall Coal Mining In Greene County](#) [PaEN]
 - TribLive - Joe Napsha: [CNX Midstream Seeks To Tap Beaver Run Drinking Water Reservoir For Fracking Water In Westmoreland County](#)
- **DEP Posted** [64 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In April 11 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP To Hold [May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP Invites [Comments On Air Quality Plan Approval To Reactivate Engines, Oil-Fired Boilers, Cooling Towers At Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant In Dauphin County](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP: A.I. Data Center [Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP Invites [Submission Of Water Quality Data For Evaluation Of 34 Wild Trout Stream Designations In 19 Counties](#) [PaEN]
 - PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]

Related Articles This Week:

- House Energy Committee [To Meet April 13 To Consider GeoThermal Energy, Advanced Transmission Line Technology, PA Energy Development Authority Bills; Sets April 14 Hearing On Net Metering](#) [PaEN]
- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - April 13](#) [PaEN]
- Bloomberg: [PJM Interconnection Announces Emergency Proposal Seeking 15 Gigawatts Of New Power Supplies To Address Potential Shortages Caused By A.I. Data Center Demand](#) [PaEN]
- PJM Interconnection [Issues Hot Weather Alert For Mid-Atlantic \(Pennsylvania\), Southern Regions For April 14-15](#) [PaEN]
- PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]
- PUC Raises Cost, [Other Concerns With Proposed 222 Mile Kammer Juniata Electric Transmission Line Project Going Through 10 PA Counties](#) [To Help Feed A.I. Data Center Demands In Eastern PA] [PaEN]
- Beaver County Residents [Tell DEP To Enforce Existing Shell Petrochemical Plant Air](#)

[Pollution Limits, Not Give Them A New Permit Increasing Pollution](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Hosts April 15 [Webinar On How To Do Trenchless Pipeline Construction Safely After Major Incidents In 2025 Causing The Release Of 1.2 Million Gallons Of Drilling Fluids Into Abandoned Mine Voids In Washington County](#). 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

-- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware](#) [PaEN]

-- Local Governments: [Apply To DEP's Community Energy Development Program By April 15 For Help In Developing Energy Transition Plans](#) [PaEN]

-- City Of Pittsburgh [To Develop Solar Energy Facility On Steel Slag Disposal Area In Swisshelm Park To Cut Energy Costs By \\$2.6 Million At 4 Public Schools](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Solar Center, [Partners Host April 17 Webinar On How Energy Storage, Solar Energy Create Resilient Communities Featuring DEP's Report On Microgrids, Energy Storage](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP State Water Plan [Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants](#) [PaEN]

-- EPA Moves [To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]

-- Powering PA Forward: [Broad Coalition Forms To Champion Smart Energy Policies, Protect PA Jobs And Economic Growth](#) [PaEN]

-- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- The Center Square: [As State Lawmakers Mull Bills, PA Community Pushback On A.I. Data Centers Is Widespread](#)

-- Williamsport Sun: [Panelists Compare Coming A.I. Data Centers To What Shale Gas Did To The Region; 'This Isn't Something That You Stop' Said PPL President 'It's Something You Are Responsible With'](#) [PDF of Article]

-- WHYY - Sophia Schmidt: [PA A.I. Data Centers: How State Lawmakers Are Responding, From Electricity And Water Use To Proposing More Tax Breaks](#)

-- Utility Dive: [Pennsylvania DEP Seeks Potential Fast-Track Energy Storage, Generation Projects In Response To PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#)

-- The Center Square: [Non-Disclosure Agreements With Local Officials On A.I. Data Centers Spur Talk Of 'Secret Deals'](#)

-- TribLive: [Duquesne Light Asks FERC To Lower PJM Price Cap From \\$325/MW/Day To The Current Floor Of \\$175/MW/Day To Save Customers \\$10/Month](#)

-- WHYY: [Gov. Shapiro Calls PECO 's Proposed 12.5% Electric, 11.4% Natural Gas Increase 'Pure Greed'](#)

-- WPXI: [Family Says Duquesne Light Power Surge Fried Their Appliances, Affected 20 Neighbors](#)

-- PATownHall.com Guest Essay: [PA Manufacturers' Association Opposes Caps On Price Of Electricity, Energy - Because The Competitive Market Works](#) [PDF of Article]

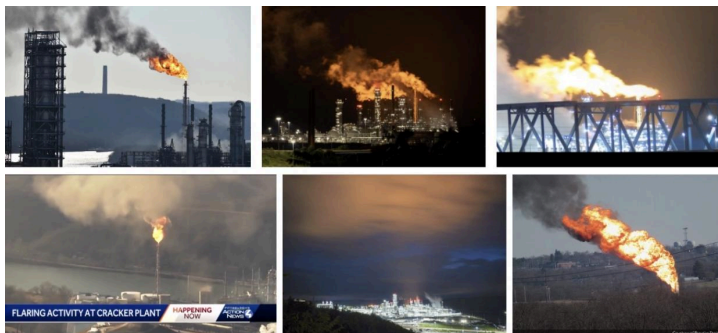
-- Inquirer: [Energy Prices Are Up, These Smart Moves Can Help Your Business Save Money](#)

- WESA/Allegheny Front: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Draft Air Permit Finds Support, Opposition At DEP Hearing](#)
- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: [DEP Hearing On Proposed Emission Limit Increases For Shell Petrochemical Plant A Temperature Check For Residents, Union Workers In Beaver County](#) [[PDF of Article](#)]
- Public Source Pittsburgh: [DEP Hearing On Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Permit Brings Out Economic Benefits And Health, Compliance Concerns](#)
- TribLive Letter: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Continues To Pollute](#) - By Clara Jane Mack, Oakland, Pittsburgh
- Chesapeake Bay Journal: [DEP Fines Eureka Resources \\$100,000 For Oil & Gas Wastewater Spills, Other Violations In Bradford, Lycoming County](#)
- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)
- TribLive: [Solar Energy Facility Planned In Swisshelm Park Would Power 4 Pittsburgh Public Schools](#)
- TheDerrick.com: [Oil City Hears From Solar Energy Company On Proposed Installation Near High School In Venango County](#)
- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Green Group Gives Pennsylvania 'F' On Solar Energy Facility Permitting](#)
- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President's Proposed Budget Cuts](#)
- AP: [President Promised To Cut Electric Bills In Half, Bills In Energy-Rich West Virginia Now Top Mortgages](#)
- TribLive Letter: [PA's Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fee An Example Of Effective Taxation](#) - By Jeff Smith, Butler [For The Industry Only, Not As A Reliable Source Of Revenue To Pay Local Governments, Others For The Damage Done By The Industry]
- Erie Times Guest Essay: [PA Helped Build US Energy Future Once, We Need To Do It Again With More Natural Gas Power Plants](#) - By former State Senator John Peterson [Leaving Us Vulnerable To Price Spikes, With 1,000s Of Abandoned Wells]
- Commonwealth Foundation Guest Essay: [Pennsylvania LNG Natural Gas Key To American Energy Independence](#) [Making Pennsylvanians Compete For Their Own Gas With High-Priced Overseas Markets]
- Ohio Capital Journal: [More Natural Gas Generation Coming To Ohio To Feed A.I. Data Centers](#) [But Will Not Increase Generation Diversity To Avoid Price Spikes For 'Ordinary People']
- Utility Dive: [Supply Crunch For Natural Gas Power Plant Turbines Set To Raise Prices 195% By 2027; 5 Year Wait For Large Turbines, Report](#)
- Bloomberg: [Electricity Prices Went Deeply Negative In France, Germany Over Easter Weekend Due To A Surge In Renewable Energy Output Colliding With Reduced Demand](#)
- Reuters: [US EIA: Record Electricity Use As A.I. Data Centers Surge; Increase In Renewables, Drop In Natural Gas, Coal Generation; Increasing Price Of Natural Gas](#)
- US EIA [Short-Term Energy Outlook As Of April 7](#)
- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President's War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)
- NYT: [It Will Take Months To Get Oil And Natural Gas Flowing Again From The Gulf](#)

[Posted: April 11, 2026]

Beaver County Residents Tell DEP To Enforce Existing Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Pollution Limits, Not Give Them A New Permit Increasing Pollution

On April 7, the Department of Environmental Protection held a hearing on an Air Quality Plan Approval covering ethylene and air pollution controls on ground flares, the wastewater treatment plant and as-built air pollution controls at the Shell Petrochemical Plant in Potter and Center Townships, Beaver County where about 70 people testified.



Workers at the plant, local business owners and politicians testified first for several hours and primarily talked about the jobs and economic benefits of the petrochemical plant.

Among the issues raised by Beaver County residents concerned about the ongoing environmental and health impacts of the petrochemical plant and covered by the draft DEP permit were--

- **Shell Noncompliance:** DEP must not issue this plan approval permit due to Shell's severe, ongoing noncompliance with air pollution control laws.
- **Shell Generates 5+ Times The Allowed Benzene Waste:** For years, Shell has been generating benzene waste in amounts that violate Shell's existing permit limit of 11 tons per year by generating up to 60 tons of benzene waste annually.
- **Permanent Benzene Monitoring:** The draft Plan Approval must require Shell to permanently operate the existing fence-line monitoring systems for benzene, and other pollutants of concern, to alert and protect local residents from dangerous releases.
- **Ban On Using Pyrolysis Oil As Feedstock:** DEP should not allow pyrolysis oil to be used by **Shell as feedstock.** [[Pyrolysis oil](#) is typically made from end-of-life plastic waste that is typically destined for landfills or incineration and produced by heating plastic to high temperatures causing the materials to break down.]
- **Set Testing, Reporting For Each Source Of Air Pollution:** The draft permit must include each requirement that applies to each source and require monitoring, testing, record keeping, and reporting requirements sufficient to demonstrate compliance with all permit limits.
- **Set Requirements For Each Flare:** The draft permit must be revised to ensure that the permit includes all applicable requirements for each flare.
- **Hold 2nd Public Meeting Without Prescreened Written Questions From Public:** DEP should hold a second Community Meeting that: (1) Provides opportunities for live, unscreened public questions; (2) Ensures transparency by allowing attendees' to hear all questions asked at one microphone; (3) Creates enough time and space for meaningful dialogue between community members and the DEP staff present.

Visit DEP's [Shell Petrochemical Plant](#) webpage for information on permits, inspections and other background on the facility.

Citizen Comments

Here are some examples of citizen comments offered at the hearing about environmental and health issues covered in the draft DEP Air Quality Plan Approval.

Hilary Starcher-O'Toole, Beaver County resident, a mother and representative of the [Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community](#)--

I want to speak directly to the requirements of Shell's Plan Approval D draft permit.

This permit is only as protective as its ability to be enforced. We should not even be here, discussing the option of another permit when the existing permits this facility has are repeatedly violated.

However, here we are. So I am forced to put what's missing from this plan approval D in my comments this evening to ensure they're not overlooked.

I'm requesting every requirement that applies to each flare is clearly stated or explicitly incorporated into the permit to ensure compliance and maximum transparency.

This should include all monitoring, testing, recordkeeping, and reporting that is strong enough to demonstrate compliance.

Currently, there is no plan for monitoring, or testing each flare included in this permit.

This is a major concern.

If monitoring is too limited, if testing is too infrequent, or if reporting is not transparent and accessible, then this presents opportunities for malfunctions to go undetected.

Communities like mine are left relying on trust instead of data—and that is not acceptable when our health is on the line.

This is especially critical when we are talking about hazardous air pollutants like benzene.

Benzene is not just another emission. It is a known carcinogen. There is no safe level of exposure, particularly for children and families who are already living near industrial facilities. Because of that, I want to be very clear:

Benzene waste emissions must not increase in any way.

Keeping benzene waste under 11 tons per year should be treated as a strict cap—not a threshold to approach, and certainly not something to expand.

In a community already burdened by pollution, even small increases matter. They add up in our air, in our homes, and in our bodies over time. And once breathed in, Benzene doesn't ever leave our bodies.

Long term exposure, which is what we're talking about- a permit for benzene waste that can be emitted into the air- is heavily linked to Leukemia and Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

That's why benzene is a known human carcinogen.

Why is there a consideration for a permit that allows more of this in Monaca? In Beaver? In Center Township? In Aliquippa.

As a mother, I think about what that means for my children—the air they breathe every day, the long-term health risks they didn't choose, and the reality that they are more vulnerable to these exposures than adults.

We should not be normalizing preventable exposure to a known carcinogen.

If anything, the goal should be reduction—not maintaining or increasing current levels.

So I urge the Department to strengthen this permit by:

- Ensuring comprehensive, enforceable monitoring and reporting for all emission sources
- Providing transparency so the public can access the compliance data
- And maintaining a firm, non-negotiable limit on benzene waste emissions, with no increases

permitted

Our community deserves more than assurances. We deserve protections that are clear, enforceable, and centered on public health.

Thank you.

Sister Kari Pohl of the [Sisters Of St. Joseph Of Baden](#), Rochester, Beaver County offered these comments--

My name is Kari Pohl and I'm a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Baden, PA-- a congregation of women religious within the Roman Catholic faith tradition.

While we were founded in Ebensburg, we have been based in Beaver County since 1901-2026 marked 125 years here.

I'm here to comment on PA DEP's Plan Approval PA-04-0074OD.

As you know, in May 2023, Shell was [fined \\$10 million and entered into a consent agreement](#) with the PA DEP, acknowledging permit violations involving volatile organic compounds, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and other hazardous air pollutants.

Since then, it has continued to commit permit violations involving these hazardous air pollutants-- including several already in 2026.

Rather than issuing and approving additional permits, I would like to see the PA DEP enforce existing permits, including and not limited to, placing the Shell Polymers Monaca site's "violation(s) or lack of intention or ability to comply" onto the PA DEP compliance docket.

In his encyclical Laudatory Si', Pope Francis referred to the problem of pollution by observing that, "technology, which, linked to business interests, is presented as the only way of solving these problems, in fact proves incapable of seeing the mysterious network of relations between things and so sometimes solves one problem only to create others."

I can't help but wonder if this isn't what is happening with this permit application, which proposes that a water pollution problem can be decreased only by exacerbating an air pollution problem.

Please prioritize the health and safety of Pennsylvanians by strictly enforcing the permits that you issue and applying the maximum penalties for non-compliance.

Thank you, Sr. Kari Pohl, Rochester, PA

Debra Smit, Director of Communications. [Breathe Project](#) in Southwest Pennsylvania--

We all deserve to live in a community where the air we breathe, water we drink and place we call home do not increase the risks of cancer, heart disease, asthma, respiratory illnesses or lifelong harm from air pollution.

In December 2016, I attended the DEP hearing on Shell's proposed petrochemical plant.

At that time, more than 100 residents stood here and raised serious concerns about allowing Shell to further pollute their air and contaminate their water.

Nearly ten years later, we are here again. These concerns have not only persisted. They have intensified.

First, Shell has repeatedly operated in violation of the Clean Air Act. During the commissioning period, emissions exceeded permitted limits, including nitrogen oxide and hazardous air pollutants.

Most concerning is benzene—a known human carcinogen—for which there is no safe level of exposure.

Shell's permit allows 11 tons per year, yet reported emissions have reached as high as 60

tons annually. DEP must require compliance with the originally permitted limits.

Second, the pattern of Notices of Violation and malfunction reports demonstrates systemic operational failures—not isolated incidents. These include flaring events, equipment breakdowns and uncontrolled releases.

Continuous, real-time fence-line monitoring that includes hazardous air pollutants must be required to protect nearby communities.

Third, Shell keeps moving the goalposts on permits, seeking to increase allowable emissions after failing to meet existing limits.

The plan approval permits were meant to be temporary, 1-year allowances to get the plant operating. Instead they have been used over 5 years after the plant started operating.

The DEP has the authority—and the obligation—to require the cessation of unlawful operations and demand enforceable, transparent limits in an operating permit.

Fourth, proposed increases in emissions—including nitrogen oxides and carbon dioxide, greenhouse gases, from 2.3 to 2.6 million tons annually—must be denied. These increases would worsen climate impacts.

Fifth, DEP should deny the use of pyrolysis oil as a feedstock, due to increased risk of toxic emissions.

Sixth, flaring must be addressed as a major source of pollution.

While flares are designed to destroy hazardous compounds, when they malfunction, they release fine particulate matter and toxic pollutants including benzene, formaldehyde and heavy metals.

The question is simple: Why should DEP accommodate a company that has not demonstrated the ability—or willingness—to comply with existing air pollution permit limits?

What does the community get? Based on [economic study \(by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis\)](#), revenue for Shell's chemical business has fallen sharply, the outlook for the plastics industry is bleak and Shell Polymers is looking to sell the Monaca Plastic Plant.

It's very unclear what the future would hold if Shell does sell off to another company.

The Clean Air Act, however, is clear. Limits must be met—not renegotiated after the fact.

For these reasons, Breathe Project is requesting the DEP deny this draft Plan Approval D and rein in Shell Polymers to follow the law.

Other Groups

Here are key points raised by other individuals and groups at the hearing--

“My doctor called me a canary in a coal mine,” **said Beaver County resident Brooke Hamberger** who has experienced health-related symptoms correlated to Shell's flaring events. “The proposed permit would raise the allowable limits of dangerous gases and particulate matter. Why would we accept even more toxic emissions? We need greater transparency on the health impacts of what Shell is already putting into our air.”

“The DEP is encouraged to measure the history of Shell's violations against the integrity of the petrochemical industry,” **said Beaver County resident EJ Pavlinich**. “There is no guarantee they will operate within these newly expanded limitations that guarantee even greater pollution — and thus greater health risks. Stop protecting polluters and start protecting Pennsylvanians.”

"Shell Polymers Monaca already has a history of exceeding its pollution limits, which represent increased health risks for nearby communities. Its previous violations include excess

emissions of known human carcinogens, including benzene," said [Environmental Health Project Executive Director, Alison L. Steele](#). "If this Title V permit is issued, we can expect more emissions—and more health risks—as a result of higher pollution limits."

"Any approval of Shell's air quality permit is an approval for Shell to keep polluting Beaver County, rubber-stamped by Shapiro's DEP. Residents are breathing hazardous chemicals on a daily basis as Shell violates environmental regulations time and time again without serious repercussions — we've had enough," said [Food & Water Watch Western Pennsylvania Organizer David Pfister](#). "The governor and his regulators must prioritize our communities' health above the petrochemical industry by denying air quality permits for Shell's cracker plant."

Resource Links:

- The Allegheny Front: [DEP Proposes Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Permit With Higher Emission Limits In Beaver County](#) [PaEN]
- DEP: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Fire Resulted In Possible Release Of An Unknown Quantity Of 1,3-Butadiene And Benzene Into The Atmosphere In Beaver County](#) [PaEN]
- FracTracker Alliance: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Released 17.9 Billion Pounds Of Air Pollution Since It Began Operation, During 80 Malfunctions, 43 Violation Episodes](#) [PaEN]
- DEP: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Pays Additional \\$2,671,044.75 In Civil Penalties For 12-Month Air Quality Violations After May 2023 Consent Order](#) [PaEN]
- DEP: [\\$5 Million In Grants Recommended To Support Mitigation Projects In Beaver County Related To Shell Petrochemical Plant Environmental Violations + Shell Paid Total Penalties Of \\$7,606,027.75](#) [PaEN]
- Shell Falcon Pipeline [LP Pleads No Contest To Criminal Charges For Violating The State Clean Streams Law In Allegheny, Beaver, Washington Counties; Will Pay \\$300,000 In Penalties](#) [PaEN]
- Environmental Groups [File Notice Of Intent To Sue The Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County For Air Pollution Violations: Similar Action In 2023 Resulted In \\$10 Million Settlement](#) [PaEN]
- Western PA Residents [Comment After A Year Of Shell Petrochemical Plant Operations](#) [PaEN]
- PA Taxpayers [To Give \\$130.9 Million In Tax Credits To Subsidize Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County; Total Expected To Be \\$1.17 Billion Thru 2042; No Regard For Environmental Compliance Record](#) [PaEN]
- No Decision [Posted Yet From DEP On Whether Flare Gas Chemical Makeup, Volume At Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Is Confidential Business Information](#) [PaEN]
- DEP: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Title V Air Quality Permit Application Complete, Now Posted On DEP's Website; Comment Period Opening Soon](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips - DEP Shell Hearing:

- WESA/Allegheny Front: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Draft Air Permit Finds Support, Opposition At DEP Hearing](#)
- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: [DEP Hearing On Proposed Emission Limit Increases For Shell Petrochemical Plant A Temperature Check For Residents, Union Workers In Beaver County](#) [PDF of Article]
- Public Source Pittsburgh: [DEP Hearing On Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Permit Brings Out](#)

Economic Benefits And Health, Compliance Concerns

-- TribLive Letter: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Continues To Pollute](#) - By Clara Jane Mack, Oakland, Pittsburgh

PA Oil & Gas Industry Public Notice Dashboards:

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-- DEP To Hold [May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Invites [Comments On CNX Midstream Project To Prevent Damage To 4 Natural Gas Gathering Pipelines From Longwall Coal Mining In Greene County](#) [PaEN]

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-- DEP: A.I. Data Center [Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County](#) [PaEN]

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-- PUC Raises Cost, [Other Concerns With Proposed 222 Mile Kammer Juniata Electric Transmission Line Project Going Through 10 PA Counties](#) [To Help Feed A.I. Data Center Demands In Eastern PA] [PaEN]

-- Beaver County Residents [Tell DEP To Enforce Existing Shell Petrochemical Plant Air](#)

[Pollution Limits, Not Give Them A New Permit Increasing Pollution](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Hosts April 15 [Webinar On How To Do Trenchless Pipeline Construction Safely After Major Incidents In 2025 Causing The Release Of 1.2 Million Gallons Of Drilling Fluids Into Abandoned Mine Voids In Washington County](#). 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

-- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware](#) [PaEN]

-- Local Governments: [Apply To DEP's Community Energy Development Program By April 15 For Help In Developing Energy Transition Plans](#) [PaEN]

-- City Of Pittsburgh [To Develop Solar Energy Facility On Steel Slag Disposal Area In Swisshelm Park To Cut Energy Costs By \\$2.6 Million At 4 Public Schools](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Solar Center, [Partners Host April 17 Webinar On How Energy Storage, Solar Energy Create Resilient Communities Featuring DEP's Report On Microgrids, Energy Storage](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP State Water Plan [Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants](#) [PaEN]

-- EPA Moves [To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]

-- Powering PA Forward: [Broad Coalition Forms To Champion Smart Energy Policies, Protect PA Jobs And Economic Growth](#) [PaEN]

-- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- The Center Square: [As State Lawmakers Mull Bills, PA Community Pushback On A.I. Data Centers Is Widespread](#)

-- Williamsport Sun: [Panelists Compare Coming A.I. Data Centers To What Shale Gas Did To The Region; 'This Isn't Something That You Stop' Said PPL President 'It's Something You Are Responsible With'](#) [PDF of Article]

-- WHYY - Sophia Schmidt: [PA A.I. Data Centers: How State Lawmakers Are Responding, From Electricity And Water Use To Proposing More Tax Breaks](#)

-- Utility Dive: [Pennsylvania DEP Seeks Potential Fast-Track Energy Storage, Generation Projects In Response To PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#)

-- The Center Square: [Non-Disclosure Agreements With Local Officials On A.I. Data Centers Spur Talk Of 'Secret Deals'](#)

-- TribLive: [Duquesne Light Asks FERC To Lower PJM Price Cap From \\$325/MW/Day To The Current Floor Of \\$175/MW/Day To Save Customers \\$10/Month](#)

-- WHYY: [Gov. Shapiro Calls PECO 's Proposed 12.5% Electric, 11.4% Natural Gas Increase 'Pure Greed'](#)

-- WPXI: [Family Says Duquesne Light Power Surge Fried Their Appliances, Affected 20 Neighbors](#)

-- PATownHall.com Guest Essay: [PA Manufacturers' Association Opposes Caps On Price Of Electricity, Energy - Because The Competitive Market Works](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Inquirer: [Energy Prices Are Up, These Smart Moves Can Help Your Business Save Money](#)

-- WESA/Allegheny Front: [Shell Petrochemical Plant Draft Air Permit Finds Support, Opposition At DEP Hearing](#)

-- Post-Gazette - Anya Litvak: [DEP Hearing On Proposed Emission Limit Increases For Shell Petrochemical Plant A Temperature Check For Residents, Union Workers In Beaver County](#) [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- Public Source Pittsburgh: [DEP Hearing On Shell Petrochemical Plant Air Permit Brings Out Economic Benefits And Health, Compliance Concerns](#)

-- TribLive Letter: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Continues To Pollute](#) - By Clara Jane Mack, Oakland, Pittsburgh

-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: [DEP Fines Eureka Resources \\$100,000 For Oil & Gas Wastewater Spills, Other Violations In Bradford, Lycoming County](#)

-- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)

-- TribLive: [Solar Energy Facility Planned In Swisshelm Park Would Power 4 Pittsburgh Public Schools](#)

-- TheDerrick.com: [Oil City Hears From Solar Energy Company On Proposed Installation Near High School In Venango County](#)

-- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Green Group Gives Pennsylvania ‘F’ On Solar Energy Facility Permitting](#)

-- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President’s Proposed Budget Cuts](#)

-- AP: [President Promised To Cut Electric Bills In Half, Bills In Energy-Rich West Virginia Now Top Mortgages](#)

-- TribLive Letter: [PA’s Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fee An Example Of Effective Taxation](#) - By Jeff Smith, Butler [For The Industry Only, Not As A Reliable Source Of Revenue To Pay Local Governments, Others For The Damage Done By The Industry]

-- Erie Times Guest Essay: [PA Helped Build US Energy Future Once, We Need To Do It Again With More Natural Gas Power Plants](#) - By former State Senator John Peterson [Leaving Us Vulnerable To Price Spikes, With 1,000s Of Abandoned Wells]

-- Commonwealth Foundation Guest Essay: [Pennsylvania LNG Natural Gas Key To American Energy Independence](#) [Making Pennsylvanians Compete For Their Own Gas With High-Priced Overseas Markets]

-- Ohio Capital Journal: [More Natural Gas Generation Coming To Ohio To Feed A.I. Data Centers](#) [But Will Not Increase Generation Diversity To Avoid Price Spikes For ‘Ordinary People’]

-- Utility Dive: [Supply Crunch For Natural Gas Power Plant Turbines Set To Raise Prices 195% By 2027; 5 Year Wait For Large Turbines, Report](#)

-- Bloomberg: [Electricity Prices Went Deeply Negative In France, Germany Over Easter Weekend Due To A Surge In Renewable Energy Output Colliding With Reduced Demand](#)

-- Reuters: [US EIA: Record Electricity Use As A.I. Data Centers Surge; Increase In Renewables, Drop In Natural Gas, Coal Generation; Increasing Price Of Natural Gas](#)

-- US EIA [Short-Term Energy Outlook As Of April 7](#)

-- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President’s War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)

-- NYT: [It Will Take Months To Get Oil And Natural Gas Flowing Again From The Gulf](#)

[Posted: April 10, 2026]

EPA Moves To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations

On April 6, the US Environmental Protection Agency [released a final rule](#) that it says will "unleash" the oil and natural gas industry and revise "burdensome, unworkable" policies to reduce methane emissions.

The changes are designed to save the industry over \$208 million a year in compliance costs.

EPA said the final rule responds to several petitions for reconsideration and feedback from industry.

Among the changes, EPA pointed to changes in requirements for flaring natural gas.

EPA said the 2024 Final Rule phased out routine flaring of associated natural gas from new sources, but allowed owners and operators to perform temporary flaring for up to 24 hours in maintenance situations.

However, serious concerns were raised that this limited time frame did not provide enough time for owners and operators to troubleshoot and repair equipment, putting energy reliability for American families and the safety of workers at risk.

Under the Trump EPA's revisions, owners and operators will now be able to utilize temporary flaring for up to 72 hours.

[Under Pennsylvania regulations, shale gas well bores are only required to be located 500 feet from the nearest homes. DEP has issued permits for [24,555 shale gas wells](#) in the state, as of March 27, 2026.]

The Biden EPA's final rule also required continuous monitoring of the net heating value (NHV) of vent gas from flares and enclosed combustion devices (ECD).

Based on data that has come to light since 2024, today's action adjusts the NHV monitoring and testing provisions so that owners and operators do not need to perform NHV sampling from flares or ECD, except where inert gases or other miscellaneous scenarios are present.

The final rule also removes the general exemption from NHV monitoring for associated gas for any control device used at well sites affected facilities.

These changes will reduce the number of unnecessary tests by up to 141,000 per year—about 1.9 million over 15 years.

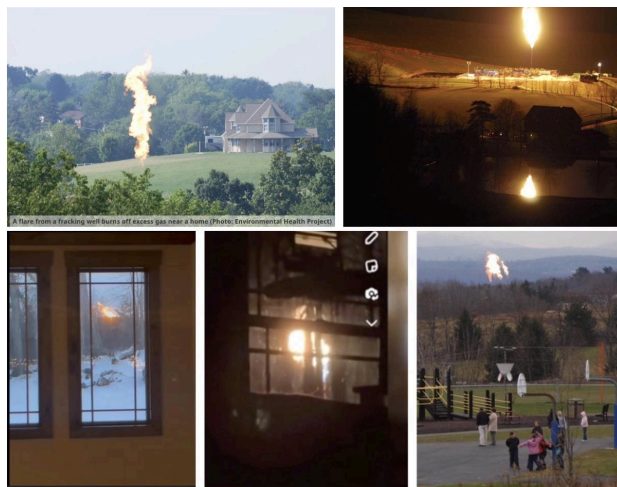
[Click Here to read the final rule.](#)

[Click Here for the EPA announcement.](#)

Reactions

In response to EPA's announcement, the **Environmental Defense Fund** [released this statement](#)--

"Flaring natural gas wastes a vital energy resource at a time when power bills are already sky high for American families, and is a major source of methane emissions and other dangerous



pollution.

"The Trump administration has made it clear that it plans to pursue a broader rollback of existing common-sense protections against methane pollution, in addition to today's changes.

"These sweeping rollbacks are happening despite recognition among industry leaders that regulations that reduce methane emissions are key to the global competitiveness of U.S. natural gas.

"Unfortunately, today's step is likely a harbinger of even more drastic and unproductive changes to come."

"Methane, the primary component of natural gas, is a climate super pollutant responsible for about 30% of the warming our planet is experiencing today. Reducing methane pollution from the oil and gas industry is the fastest way to slow down the rate of climate change."

[Evangelical Environmental Network](#) President and CEO Dr. Rev. Jessica Moerman released the following statement--

"Natural gas flaring wastes precious energy resources at the very moment American families are struggling with rising energy costs and releases toxic pollutants linked to stroke, heart disease, childhood asthma, adverse birth outcomes including preterm birth, and even cancer.

"The EPA's decision to relax important requirements for industry to monitor and limit flaring is a step in the wrong direction for making America healthy again and protecting the sanctity of life.

"Limiting natural gas waste and methane pollution is cost-effective and brings much-needed energy resources to market to heat and fuel American homes.

"Unraveling cost-effective and life-saving methane pollution safeguards is also at odds with the EPA's mission to protect human health.

"This week's reversal on natural gas flaring is just the first of many significant rollbacks to methane protections the EPA has signaled it will make in the coming months.

"American families, especially those in oil and gas country, are justified in asking the EPA why it is wasting our taxpayer dollars on eliminating cost-effective methane pollution protections that help prevent cancer, dementia, and birth defects—time and money that could instead be directed toward building upon the positive first steps it has taken to address new and emerging health toxins, like microplastics in drinking water, and accelerate developing full and robust solutions to those."

DEP Developing Implementation Plan

Since EPA adopted the original OOOOb-c oil and gas industry methane reduction rule in March 2024, the Department of Environmental Protection has been developing a plan to submit to EPA to implement the regulation.

DEP held eight hearings on its proposed plan in June and July 2025 to gather public input. [Read more here.](#)

On April 24, 2025, DEP told members of DCED's PA Grade Crude [Oil] Development Advisory Council the agency will continue to develop a program to meet these new requirements as long as the federal regulation is on the books. [Read more here.](#)

DEP said it plans to implement and enforce the new EPA requirements through its "existing [Air Quality] plan approval, general permit and operating permit programs" [\[page 179\]](#)

DEP said it intends to develop General Plan Approval/Operating Permits for the crude oil and natural gas source category. [\[page 179\]](#)

DEP said, “The public and other stakeholders will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed general permits for the conventional and unconventional industry.”

The general permit draft is not included in the plan DEP proposed.

Visit DEP’s [OOOOb-c Methane Reduction Plan](#) webpage for more information.

Existing DEP Oil & Gas Methane Rule

The Environmental Quality Board adopted regulations in December 2022 requiring methane pollution reductions from conventional oil and gas facilities in response to a federal rule then in effect.

Conventional well owners challenged the regulations in court and did not have to comply with the requirement to submit a compliance report until a settlement with DEP in April required them to submit their first report by June 1, 2025. [Read more here.](#)

DEP reported in November, 2025, more than 99% of the 4,950 conventional oil and gas well owners failed to comply with the reporting requirement. [Read more here.](#)

During the process of adopting the 2022 regulations, DEP estimated conventional oil and gas facilities would account for 80 percent of the total methane emission reductions expected under the regulations which covered both conventional and unconventional shale gas facilities. [Read more here.](#)

Shale gas facility owners submitted their first reports on June 1, 2024 to cover 2023 emissions as required.

Resource Links:

- EPA Extends Oil & Gas Industry [Compliance Deadlines For Federal Clean Air Act Methane Reduction Rule; Deadline Extended For States To Submit Compliance Plan To 2027](#) [PaEN]
- EPA's Delay [Of Oil & Gas Industry Methane Emissions Reductions Harms Pennsylvanians; Reactions From PA, Related Groups](#) [PaEN]
- Guest Essay: [Federal EPA Rollbacks Mean Pennsylvania Must Take The Lead On Cutting Methane Pollution From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]
- PA Marcellus Shale Gas Coalition [Applauds President For Overturning Basis For Greenhouse Gas Reduction Programs-- Including Methane From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]
- DEP: More Than 99% [Of Conventional Oil & Gas Facility Owners Failed To Comply With VOC/Methane Reduction Regulations Covering 64,660 Wells; Had 193 Days To File](#) [PaEN]
- Oil & Gas Methane Pollution [Reduction Testimony: Vanessa Lynch, Mother, Allegheny County Resident - Its Been 5 Years Since A Grand Jury Report Said Pennsylvania Failed To Protect Families From Fracking. Let's Right Past Failures](#) [PaEN]
- Shale Gas Industry [VP Attacks Credibility Of A Mom And Allegheny County Resident For Comments She Submitted In Support Of DEP Plan To Reduce Methane Emissions From The Oil & Gas Industry](#) [PaEN]

PA Oil & Gas Industry Public Notice Dashboards:

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[Posted: April 6, 2026]

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware

On April 3, the [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission](#) issued [notice of a Scoping Period Request for Comments](#) on environmental issues related to the proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline and Wright Interconnect Projects.

Williams Pipeline Company and Iroquois Gas Transmission System have each asked FERC to reissue certificates for the related projects, which would let natural gas flow from Pennsylvania to upstate New York before connecting with existing infrastructure.

Constitution and Iroquois propose to construct and operate 124.4 miles of new 30-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline and associated equipment and facilities in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania and New York.

“Any environmental document issued by the Commission will discuss impacts not previously considered in the 2014 final EIS that could occur as a result of the construction and operation of the proposed Projects.”

Following this scoping period, Commission staff will determine whether to prepare an environmental document such as an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an EIS.

The deadline for comments is May 4.

[Click Here for the FERC notice](#) for more information and instructions on submitting comments.

To find documents related to the project, [search the FERC eLibrary](#) for these docket numbers--

-- Constitution Pipeline Company, LLC - Docket No. CP13-499-006

-- Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P. - Docket No. CP13-502-003

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DEP Invites Comments On CNX Midstream Project To Prevent Damage To 4 Natural Gas Gathering Pipelines From Longwall Coal Mining In Greene County

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin inviting comments on a Chapter 105 Encroachment Permit for a CNX Midstream Operating Company LLC project to prevent longwall coal mining damage to four natural gas gathering pipelines in Center Township, Greene County. ([PA Bulletin, page 2041](#))

The project is expected to impact Claylick Run, a High Quality watershed.

DEP will accept comments until 30 days after this notice-- May 11.

No hearing has been scheduled, but one may be requested.

Requests to review the application, comments or questions should be directed to DEP Southwest Regional Office Oil and Gas Management Program, 400 Waterfront Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15222, call (412) 442-4000 or send email to: RA-EPSW-OGSUBMISSION@pa.gov.

Read the entire PA Bulletin notice for more information. ([PA Bulletin, page 2041](#))

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP’s website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP’s newsletter; sign up for [DEP’s eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP’s YouTube Channel](#).

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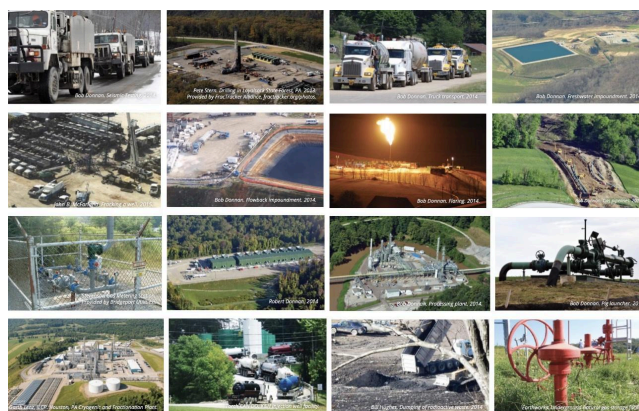
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PA Oil & Gas Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - April 11

The following notices were published in the [April 11 PA Bulletin](#) related to oil and gas industry facilities. Many of the notices offer the opportunity for public comments.

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing a May 12 hearing on the Individual NPDES Stormwater Permit for the 5.8 mile HCPP **30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline** serving the 4.5 GW **Homer City A.I. Data Center Campus Power Plant** in **Burrell, Blacklick and Center Townships**,



Indiana County. ([PA Bulletin, page 2067](#)) [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin inviting comments on a Chapter 105 Encroachment Permit for a **CNX Midstream Operating Company LLC** project to prevent longwall coal mining damage to four natural gas gathering pipelines in **Center Township, Greene County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2041](#)) [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing it has issued an Air Quality Plan Approval to the **Hamilton Patriot LLC** natural gas power plant to increase the maximum power output of the facility located in **Clinton Twp., Lycoming County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2057](#))

Land Recycling/Brownfield Cleanups

-- **EQT Prod Corp. - Mingo Shale Gas Pad:** DEP received a Final Report on remediation of soil from impacts of contaminated water spill to meet Statewide Health Standards at the pad located in **Union Twp., Washington County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2054](#))

-- **EQT Corporation - Rough Hollow Shale Gas Well Pad:** DEP received a Final Report on remediation of soil contaminated with production wastewater to meet the Statewide Health Standards at a pad located in **Washington Twp., Greene County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2054](#))

-- **Coterra Energy Inc. - J. Palko Shale Gas Well Pad I:** DEP approved a Final Report on remediation of soil contaminated with production wastewater to meet the Statewide Health Standard at the pad located in **Lathrop Twp., Susquehanna County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2055](#))

-- **Expand Operating LLC - Porter WYO Shale Gas Well Pad:** DEP approved a Final Report on remediation of soil contaminated with production wastewater to meet Statewide Health Standards at the pad located in **North Branch Twp., Wyoming County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2055](#))

2026 Act 2 Oil & Gas Facility Pollution Cleanups

So far in 2026, DEP received or acted on 50 Act 2 Land Recycling notices related to oil and gas facility site cleanups.

Waste Permits - Issued

-- **EQT CHAP, LLC - Herriott A Storage Tank Facility:** DEP issued a WMGR123 Waste General Permit for a 1.6 million gallon aboveground storage tank for reusing oil and gas wastewater for fracking located in **German Twp., Fayette County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2055](#))

-- **Clearwater Technology, LLC - Oil & Gas Wastewater Processing Facility:** DEP issued a Residual Waste Permit for the unidentified facility located in **Jessup Twp., Susquehanna County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2056](#))

Air Quality Permits - Comments

-- **Peoples Natural Gas Co. LLC - Shoemaker Compressor Station:** DEP invites comments on a renewal of a State Only Air Quality Permit for the facility located in **Bethel Twp., Armstrong County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2034](#))

Air Quality Permits - Issued

- **Environmental Commodities Corp - Flare At E22 Pressure Relief Borehole:** DEP issued a GP-21 Air Quality General Permit for a coal mine borehole flare located in **Morris Twp., Washington County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2056](#))
- **EQT Midstream Co. LLC - Deemston Wicks Compressor Station:** DEP issued a GP-5 Air Quality General Permit for replacement of a compressor engine located in **Deemston Boro, Washington County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2056](#))
- **Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC - Renovo Compressor Station:** DEP issued a renewal of a Title V Air Quality Permit for the facility located in **Chapman Twp., Clinton County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2057](#))
- **UGI Auburn Gathering, LLC - Gathering Pipeline:** DEP amended the State Only Air Quality Permit related to transfer of ownership for the facility located in **Washington Twp., Wyoming County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2058](#))
- **KC Midstream Solutions LLC - Natural Gas Gathering & Boost Facility:** DEP renewed a State Only Air Quality Permit for the facility located in **Wayne Twp., Erie County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2058](#))
- **Range Resources- Appalachia, LLC -Thermoelectric Generator:** DEP approved a de minimis emissions increase for the project located in **Mount Pleasant Twp., Washington County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2059](#))

NPDES Wastewater Permits - Comments

- **INGENCO Wholesale Power LLC - Landfill Gas Power Plant:** DEP invites comments on an NPDES Wastewater Treatment Permit for the facility located in **Peters Twp., Franklin County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2022](#))

Chapter 105 Encroachment Permits - Issued

- **EXCO Resources PA, LLC - 12-Inch Shale Gas Water Pipeline:** DEP issued a Chapter 105 permit for the project impacting Rock Run (Exceptional Value) and Exceptional Value wetlands located in **Shrewsbury Twp., Sullivan County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2064](#))
- **Appalachia Midstream Services LLC - 10-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline:** DEP issued a Chapter 105 permit for the project impacting Sugar Run and wetlands located in **Wilmot Twp., Bradford County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2064](#))

Erosion & Sedimentation Permits - Issued

- **EQT ARO LLC - Unknown Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting McClure Run (High Quality) located in **McHenry Twp., Lycoming County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))
- **Appalachia Midstream Services, LLC - Pipeline Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting Towanda Creek located in **Leroy Twp., Bradford County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))
- **Expand Operating LLC - Unknown Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting Wysox Creek located in **Wysox Twp., Bradford County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))
- **Expand Operating LLC - Unknown Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting Wysox Creek and Susquehanna River located in **Wysox Twp., Bradford County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))
- **Snyder Bros Inc. - Unknown Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project

impacting the Allegheny River and Glade Run located in **North Buffalo Twp., Armstrong County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))

-- **Range Resources - Appalachia LLC - Hutchison James 12003 Shale Gas Well Pad**: DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a well pad impacting Little Raccoon Run located in **Robinson Twp., Washington County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))

-- **Range Resources - Appalachia LLC - L. Miller Shale Gas Well Pad Expansion**: DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a well pad project impacting Brush Run (High Quality) located in **Hopewell Twp., Washington County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2065](#))

Oil & Gas Well Drilling Permits [New Workload Report Not Available]*

-- **Last Week - Permits**

-- **Year To Date**

-- **Last Week**

-- **Year To Date**

[*DEP's Weekly Oil & Gas Program Workload Report](#) - Most Recent

DEP Issued These New/Renewed Oil & Gas Permits*

This is a list of conventional oil and gas and shale gas well permits DEP issued from March 28 to April 3 by county--

Butler County

-- Parker Twp.: **Laurel Mountain Production** - 2 Shale Gas Permits

Fayette County

-- Luzerne Twp.: **EQT CHAP LLC** - 4 Shale Gas Permits - Modification

Warren County

-- Mead Twp.: **Gas & Oil MGMT Assn. Inc.** - 3 Conventional Well Permits

-- Pleasant Twp.: **Gas & Oil MGMT Assn. Inc.** - 4 Conventional Well Permits

[*Click Here to find oil and gas well permits recently issued near you](#)

Sign Up! DEP eNotice: The Only Way You'll Know When Applications Come In To DEP

Did you know DEP can send you email notices when permit applications are submitted to DEP in your community?

This is the only way you can get notified of when oil and gas-related permits are submitted to DEP.

You'll also get notice of new technical guidance documents and regulations.

[Click Here to sign up for DEP's eNOTICE today!](#)

Act 14 Notices To Municipalities

Many communities and citizens are not aware that a state law passed in 1984 gives them the first chance to comment on Department of Environmental Protection permit applications even before they are submitted to the agency. [Read more here.](#)

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[Posted: April 10, 2026]

DEP To Hold May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing a May 12 hearing on the Individual NPDES Stormwater Permit for the 5.8 mile

HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline serving the 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Campus Power Plant in Burrell, Blacklick and Center Townships, Indiana County. ([PA Bulletin, page 2067](#))

The project will impact Muddy Run, Blacklick Creek and various unnamed tributaries to these streams.

DEP held an initial public comment period on the application in February 2026. [Read more here.](#)

The hearing will be held at the Indiana Theater, 637 Philadelphia Street in Indiana from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Requests to testify at the hearing should be submitted in writing to Elspeth Koehle, Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator at: ekoehle@pa.gov.

Representatives from DEP's Northwest Regional Office Waterways & Wetlands Program and the Indiana County Conservation District will be in attendance.

The permit application is available for review at the Indiana County Conservation District Office, 435 Hamill Road in Indiana or the DEP Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut Street in Meadville.

Questions should be directed to: Elspeth Koehle, Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator at: ekoehle@pa.gov or (814) 332-6101.

Read the entire PA Bulletin notice for more information. ([PA Bulletin, page 2067](#))

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

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DEP: A.I. Data Center Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing it has received an Act 2 Land Recycling Program Notice of Intent from [Edged Energy](#), an A.I. Data Center developer, to remediate a property in South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County. ([PA Bulletin, page 2030](#))

The notice involves remediation of soil contaminated by a release of lead, arsenic, and volatile organic compounds.

Public and municipal comments are due to DEP 30 days after the Notice of Intent was published in a newspaper, in this case the Morning Call on March 18-- April 17.

Requests to review the Notice, comments or questions should be directed to the DEP Northeast Regional Office Environmental Cleanup & Brownfields Program, 2 Public Square, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701 or call 570-826-2511.

Questions should be directed to Sherry Carlo, Licensed Professional Geologist Manager.

Read the entire PA Bulletin notice for more information. ([PA Bulletin, page 2030](#))

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP’s website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP’s newsletter; sign up for [DEP’s eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP’s YouTube Channel](#).

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DEP Invites Comments On Air Quality Plan Approval To Reactivate Engines, Oil-Fired Boilers, Cooling Towers At Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant In Dauphin County

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin inviting comments on an Air Quality Plan Approval covering the reactivation of internal combustion engines, oil-fired boilers and cooling towers for the restart of the Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant (Crane Clean Energy Center) in Dauphin County. ([PA Bulletin, page 2033](#))

TMI is being restarted to provide power to Microsoft A.I. Data Centers.

Comments will be accepted until 30 days after this notice-- May 11.

No hearing has been scheduled, but one may be requested.

Requests to review the application, comments or questions should be directed to: DEP Southcentral Regional Office Air Quality Program, 909 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17110 or contact Vincent Pasucci, PE, East Permit Section Chief, 717-705-4862.

Read the entire PA Bulletin notice for more information. ([PA Bulletin, page 2033](#))

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

PA Oil & Gas Industry Public Notice Dashboards:

-- DEP: Wastewater [Spill At Repsol Oil & Gas USA Shale Gas Well Pad In Bradford County Results In Recovery Of 166,729 Gallons Of Contaminated Water, So Far](#) [PaEN]

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-- PA Solar Center, [Partners Host April 17 Webinar On How Energy Storage, Solar Energy Create Resilient Communities Featuring DEP's Report On Microgrids, Energy Storage](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN]

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[Posted: April 10, 2026]

PUC Sets July 7 Hearings On Greater Hazleton CAN DO Request To Supply 350,000 Gallons Of Recycled Water/Day To A Proposed A.I. Data Center Campus In The Humboldt Industrial Park, Luzerne County

On April 10, the [Public Utility Commission](#) announced that [two telephonic public input hearings](#) will be held on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, regarding an application filed by the [Greater Hazleton Community Area New Development Organization t/a CAN DO](#) (CAN DO) to expand its water service territory in order to serve a proposed data center campus in Luzerne County.

In its [application to the Commission](#), CAN DO seeks authority to provide water service to a parcel of land which is adjacent to its existing service territory at the Humboldt Industrial Park.

As proposed, CAN DO would acquire this land parcel located in Hazle Township, together with portions of Sugarloaf Township and West Hazleton Borough, all in Luzerne County – as well as abandon service in portions of Hazle Township and East Union Township, Schuylkill County.

[On April 11, [The Shenandoah Sentinel reported](#) CAN DO is requesting up to 30,000 gallons per day of potable water for domestic use. That water will not be used for data center cooling.

[Filings note that the Greater Hazleton Joint Sewer Authority will provide 350,000 gallons of recycled water per day for cooling. [Read more here.](#)]

Residents and other concerned parties are welcome to participate in the telephonic public input hearings and provide their feedback on the company’s proposed plans.

PUC Administrative Law Judges Steven K. Haas and Emily A. Farren will preside over the upcoming hearings.

Testimony and comments shared during the hearings will be entered into the official record of this case and considered by Judges Haas and Farren and the Commission as they evaluate the company’s application, which was filed on Jan. 13, 2026.

Telephonic Public Input Hearings

Two telephonic public input hearings have been scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2026 – with the first hearing beginning at 1:00 p.m. and the second hearing beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Individuals may participate in either hearing by entering the following information:

Toll-free Conference Number: 888-387-8560 PIN Number: 69874953

After dialing the toll-free conference number, individuals will be prompted to enter the PIN number, speak their name, and press #. The telephone system will connect them to the hearing.

Pre-registration to speak at a public input hearing is encouraged but not required.

Pre-registration is also not required for individuals who wish to only listen to a public input hearing but not offer testimony.

Pre-Registering for a Telephonic Hearing

To pre-register to testify on a telephonic public input hearing, please contact the PUC Judges' Legal Assistant, Sarah Cavanaugh, by phone at 717-783-5179 or by email at sarcavanau@pa.gov and provide the following information--

- Your first and last name.
- The telephone phone number you will be using to call into the public input hearing.
- A phone number where you can be reached prior to the hearing, if needed.
- Your email address, if you have one.

Anyone wishing to testify is encouraged to pre-register with the PUC's Office of Administrative Law Judge by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 6, 2026.

Those who pre-register will be called to testify at the hearing in the order in which they pre-registered.

Failure to pre-register for a telephonic public input hearing could result in you not being called to testify by the PUC Judge.

Assistance with Pre-Registration

If you need assistance pre-registering to testify, you may have someone register for you, but they will need to provide all the required information for each person intending to testify.

Additionally, if more than one person in your household would like to testify, one person may pre-register for other individuals in the same household by providing the PUC Judges' Legal Assistant with the necessary information for each individual.

Requests for Interpreters

If you require an interpreter, please pre-register as soon as possible.

If you register too close to the hearing date, there may not be enough time to arrange for an interpreter.

If you request an interpreter, the PUC will make reasonable efforts to have one present. TTY-based Telecommunications Relay Service number for those who are deaf or hearing-impaired is 711

Hearing Exhibits

If you have any hearing exhibits to which you will refer during the hearing, please email them to the Legal Assistant at sarcavanau@pa.gov.

The PUC Judge will forward your exhibits to all the parties.

Exhibits for the telephonic public input hearings must be received by the Legal Assistant by Tuesday, June 30, 2026.

About CAN DO

[CAN DO](#) is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(6) economic development organization. It owns and operates both water and wastewater systems regulated by the Commission – serving approximately 120 commercial and industrial customers in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

CAN DO's water system provides service in the Humboldt Industrial Park (located partly

in Hazle Township, Luzerne County and partly in East Union Township in Schuylkill County); the McAdoo Industrial Park (located in Banks Township, Carbon County); and the CAN DO Corporate Center (located in Butler Township, Luzerne County).

Questions

The Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) represents the interests of utility customers before the PUC.

The Pennsylvania Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) represents the interests of small business utility customers before the PUC.

If you have questions about the public input hearings or the company's application, please contact the OCA toll free at 1-800-684-6560 or by email at consumer@paoca.org.

Small businesses can contact the OSBA at 717-783-2525 or by email at osba@pa.gov.

Documents related to this request can be found at [PUC Docket: A-2026-3059809](#).

[Click Here for the PUC announcement](#).

NewsClip:

-- The Shenandoah Sentinel: [Hearings Set As PUC Considers Request To Provide Water Service To Hazleton Area A.I. Data Centers](#)

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[Posted: April 11, 2026]

House Energy Committee To Meet April 13 To Consider GeoThermal Energy, Advanced Transmission Line Technology, PA Energy Development Authority Bills; Sets April 14 Hearing On Net Metering

The [House Energy Committee](#) is scheduled to meet April 13 to consider legislation setting a regulatory framework for geothermal energy, advancing transmission line technology and updating the PA Energy Development Authority.

The Committee has also scheduled an April 14 hearing on net metering legislation.

The April 13 voting meeting will consider--

- [House Bill 2076](#) (Venkat-D-Allegheny, Williams-R-Chester), bipartisan legislation that would establish a regulatory framework for the generation of geothermal resources in the state. [[draft amendment](#)]
- [House Bill 2223](#) (Fiedler-D- Philadelphia) requiring electric utilities to evaluate the use of advanced transmission technologies when they file transmission line siting applications [[draft amendment](#)]; and
- [House Bill 2347](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) would update the duties of the [PA Energy Development Authority](#) and board membership.

The meeting will be held in Room 205 Ryan Building starting at 10:30 a.m. [Click Here to watch online.](#)

April 14 Hearing

The Committee has scheduled an April 14 hearing on [House Bill 2348](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) updating the state’s net metering policy related to renewable and other distributed energy resources..

The hearing will be held in Room 60 East Wing of the Main Capital from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. [Click Here to watch online.](#)

Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler (D-Philadelphia) serves as Majority Chair of the [House Energy Committee](#) and can be contacted by calling 215-271-9190 or [click here to contact](#). Rep. Martin Causer (R-Cameron) serves as Minority Chair and can be contacted by calling 717-787-5075 or by sending email to: mcauser@pahousegop.com.

Upcoming Events

-- April 13-- Penn State Extension [Webinar On Geothermal Energy Opportunities](#). Noon to 1:00 p.m.

-- April 14-- DEP Citizens Advisory Council [Meets April 14 To Hear Presentations On GeoThermal Energy; Combined Sewer Overflows In Philadelphia](#) [PaEN]

Resource Links:

-- House Energy Committee [Hears How Geothermal Energy Could Meet 100% Of PA's Electricity, Heating Needs Offering True Energy Independence And Freedom From Foreign Energy Markets Costing Pennsylvanians Billions](#) [PaEN]

-- PA House Energy Committee [Hears How Virtual Power Plants, Advanced Transmission Line Technologies Allow Us To Quickly Get More Out Of Our Energy Infrastructure In Less Time, Without Huge Investments Or Delays](#) [PaEN]

-- Senate DEP Budget Hearing: [How Energy Storage Can Add Capacity To The Grid; Chesapeake Bay Cleanup](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Seeks Proposals [For Electric Generation, Battery Storage To Quickly Enter Service To Feed Rising Energy Demands From A.I. Data Centers, Improve Grid Reliability, Address High Energy Costs](#) [PaEN]

PA Oil & Gas Industry Public Notice Dashboards:

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- Commonwealth Foundation Guest Essay: [Pennsylvania LNG Natural Gas Key To American Energy Independence](#) [Making Pennsylvanians Compete For Their Own Gas With High-Priced Overseas Markets]

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- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President’s War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)
- NYT: [It Will Take Months To Get Oil And Natural Gas Flowing Again From The Gulf](#)

[Posted: April 6, 2026]

PUC Raises Cost, Other Concerns With Proposed 222 Mile Kammer Juniata Electric Transmission Line Project Going Through 10 PA Counties [To Help Feed A.I. Data Center Demands In Eastern PA]

On April 8, the [Public Utility Commission](#) announced it has filed [formal comments](#) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission raising significant concerns about a proposed high-voltage electric transmission project that would extend approximately 222 miles from Kammer, West Virginia, through ten Pennsylvania counties to Juniata County.

[The counties include Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Indiana, Cambria, Blair, Huntingdon, Mifflin, Juniata and Perry.

[The proposal is the latest mega-project tied to the development of data centers for artificial intelligence in Pennsylvania: One of the transmission line’s primary goals would be to help satisfy the expected electricity demand for new computing power in the eastern half of the state that could put dangerous strain on the grid by 2032, according to reporting by the [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#).]

The Commission’s filing addresses a request by [Kammer Juniata Transmission, LLC](#), a joint project of NextEra Energy Transmission and Exelon Corporation, for federal approval of a formula rate structure and multiple financial incentives tied to the development of the project.

“The combined package of incentives requested is not tailored to address risks or challenges faced by the applicant and, if granted, will likely result in unjust and unreasonable rates for consumers,” the PUC Commissioners noted in their comments. “Pennsylvanians would be ill-served by a final selection occurring until all possible alternatives have been thoroughly evaluated in a more transparent manner.”

In its comments to federal regulators, the PUC emphasizes the potential impact on consumers and questions whether the requested incentives are appropriate at this stage of the project.

The proposed project would involve construction of new transmission infrastructure through largely undeveloped corridors, raising both cost and siting considerations.

The PUC notes that the project has not yet undergone required state-level review processes in Pennsylvania or West Virginia, including applications for Certificates of Public

Convenience required to provide public utility service.

“Absent an evaluation at the state level regarding need, siting, and public interest, the Commission (FERC) should withhold incentives to a transmission project,” the PUC comments stressed. “Allowing these incentives could substantially increase the risk of customers ultimately paying for transmission facilities that are never built and from which they derive no benefit.”

The PUC’s comments also raise concerns about how the project was selected through the regional transmission planning process, including whether sufficient alternatives were considered and whether the timeline allowed for meaningful competition.

In addition, the Commission cautions that several of the requested financial incentives-- such as recovery of construction costs before the project is completed or reimbursement for abandoned projects-- could shift financial risk from developers to ratepayers.

The PUC also highlights the importance of aligning federal decisions with state regulatory processes, noting that state commissions are responsible for evaluating whether projects are necessary, appropriately designed, and in the public interest.

Overall, the Commission urges FERC to deny the requested incentives unless and until the project has received necessary state approvals and a more complete evaluation of its costs, benefits, and alternatives has been conducted.

[Click Here for the full PUC comments](#) filed with FERC.

[Click Here for the PUC announcement.](#)

(Map: [Observer-Reporter.](#))

Resource Links:

-- Observer-Reporter: [\\$1.7 Billion High Voltage Power Line Project To Cross Greene, Fayette, 8 Other PA Counties To Feed A.I. Data Centers; Consumer Advocate Opposes As Too Costly, Violates President’s Bring Your Own Power Policy](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Post-Gazette - Laura Legere: [Electric Power ‘Superhighway’ Proposed To Cut Across 200 Miles Of Southwestern And Central PA](#) [PDF of Article]

PA Oil & Gas Industry Public Notice Dashboards:

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-- EPA Moves [To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]

-- Powering PA Forward: [Broad Coalition Forms To Champion Smart Energy Policies, Protect](#)

[PA Jobs And Economic Growth](#) [PaEN]

-- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

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[Posted: April 8, 2026]

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Here are Articles and NewsClips on A.I. and data center issues from last week you may have missed--

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-- Powering PA Forward: [Broad Coalition Forms To Champion Smart Energy Policies, Protect PA Jobs And Economic Growth](#) [PaEN]

-- Wall Street Journal: [These Cities And States Are Taking Aim At A.I. Data Centers Over Concerns Of Rising Electricity Demand, Environmental Impact](#)

Land Use

-- The Center Square: [Non-Disclosure Agreements With Local Officials On A.I. Data Centers Spur Talk Of ‘Secret Deals’](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Municipalities To Hold 5 A.I. Data Center Meetings, Hearings This Month: Archbald Boro, Olyphant Boro, Fell, Greenfield And Scott Townships](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center New York Developer Launches Campaign Touting Finances, Questioning Opponents Of The Project To Build 12 Data Centers Using 3.3 Million Gallons Of Water/Day, 1.6 GW Of Electricity](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developer’s ‘Charm Offensive’ Bombs Badly](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Scranton Times: [Firm Tied To Project Gold A.I. Data Center Campus Buys 200+ Acres In Covington Township](#)

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: [Old-School ‘Data Centers’ Don’t Pollute; Stop Archbald Data Centers Holds Public Meeting In A Library](#)

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [Luzerne County Planning Commission Continues A.I. Data Center Zoning Discussion](#)

-- The Citizens’ Voice: [Butler Twp. Prepares A.I. Data Center Rules In Luzerne County, May 12 Hearing](#)

-- The Citizens’ Voice: [Hunlock Creek 146-MW Natural Gas Power Plant Expresses Interest In Building A.I. Data Center In Hunlock Twp., Luzerne County](#)

-- Morning Call: [Lower Mount Bethel Residents Raise Concerns About A.I. Data Center Proposal At Town Hall In Northampton County: ‘We Don’t Want It’](#)

-- Morning Call Letter: [Lehigh Valley A.I. Data Center Proposal A Disaster Waiting To Happen](#) - By Gwen Dietrich, Lynn Township

-- Pottstown Mercury: [Limerick Planning Commission A.I. Data Center Vote May Have Violated Open Meetings Law; Commission Voted To Reject 1.4 Million Square Foot Proposal Unless 18 Conditions Are Met](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Inquirer: [East Vincent Twp. Planning Commission Has Again Recommended The Rejection Of Proposed A.I. Data Center For Former PennHurst Hospital Site In Chester County](#)

-- PennLive - John Beauge: [Developer Of 4 Proposed A.I. Data Centers In Union County Renews Transparency Pledge](#)

-- TribLive: [Upper Burrell TECFusions A.I. Data Center Town Hall Scheduled For May 5 In Westmoreland County](#)

-- Observer-Reporter: [Cecil Twp. Supervisors Discuss A.I. Data Center Ordinance In Washington County](#)

-- Post-Gazette Guest Essay: [With A.I. Pittsburgh Must Not Become A ‘Digital Rust Belt’ With Cutting-Edge Physical Infrastructure, But With Few Economic And Social Benefits For People Who Call Three Rivers Home](#) - By Nishant Sahdev, University of North Carolina

-- [PA Data Center Hearings & Meetings](#) - Physicians For Social Responsibility PA

Public Participation

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-- DEP: A.I. Data Center [Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County](#) [PaEN]

-- Scranton Times: [PPL Open House Now April 21 On Proposed Power Line/Substation Projects To Serve Proposed A.I. Data Center Projects In Archbald Boro](#)

-- PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]

-- PUC Sets July 7 [Hearings On Greater Hazleton CAN DO Request To Supply 350,000 Gallons Of Recycled Water/Day To A Proposed A.I. Data Center Campus In The Humboldt Industrial Park, Luzerne County](#) [PaEN]

-- The Shenandoah Sentinel: [Hearings Set As PUC Considers Request To Provide Water Service To Hazleton Area A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- [PA Data Center Hearings & Meetings](#) - Physicians For Social Responsibility PA

A.I. Policy

-- Scranton Times: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center New York Developer Launches Campaign Touting Finances, Questioning Opponents Of The Project To Build 12 Data Centers Using 3.3 Million Gallons Of Water/Day, 1.6 GW Of Electricity](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developer's 'Charm Offensive' Bombs Badly](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Wall Street Journal: [A.I. Giants Go On Charm Offensive To Avert Public Backlash](#)
[Posted: April 12, 2026]

PUC Publishes Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets

The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin](#) inviting comments on a proposed rule regulating electric distributed energy, aggregation resources and virtual Power plant participation in wholesale energy markets.

The PUC notice provides extensive background on how the rule was developed through an advanced notice of rulemaking published in November 2023 as well as a stakeholder process and outlines related Federal Energy Regulatory Commission actions impacting the rule.

The PUC will accept comments on the proposed rule for 60 days following this notice. A 90 day period will follow for filing reply comments.

Read the [entire PA Bulletin notice](#) for background and instructions on how to submit comments.

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-- TribLive Letter: [Shell Petrochemical Plant In Beaver County Continues To Pollute](#) - By Clara Jane Mack, Oakland, Pittsburgh

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Local Governments: Apply To DEP’s Community Energy Development Program By April 15 For Help In Developing Energy Transition Plans



The Department of Environmental Protection is accepting applications for the [Community Energy](#)

[Development Program](#) until April 15 from local governments interested in developing energy transition plans.

The goal of the program is to provide the technical assistance necessary for Pennsylvania communities to establish the contractual/financial/physical infrastructure needed for things like--

- Demand-response market representation;
- Renewable energy adoption and development;
- Establish local solar/renewable energy co-op;
- Assist in development of opt-in municipal/community choice aggregation for residents within participating communities; and
- Study and development of energy efficiency and weatherization programs for residential and commercial properties, especially low income (this may include plan or program development, identification of funding opportunities, application assistance.
- Reducing energy costs, avoiding energy cost spikes.

[Click Here to watch an on-demand webinar](#) about the program.

Visit DEP's [Community Energy Development Program](#) webpage for details on the program.

Questions should be directed to: Chris Nafe at chnafe@pa.gov or 717-783-9726.

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

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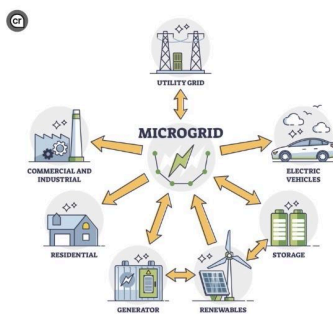
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PA Solar Center, Partners Host April 17 Webinar On How Energy Storage, Solar Energy Create Resilient Communities Featuring DEP's Report On Microgrids, Energy Storage



The [Pennsylvania Solar Center](#), [Smart Electric Power Alliance](#) and DEP will host an [April 17 webinar](#) On How Energy Storage And Solar Energy And Create Resilient Communities from Noon to 1:15 p.m.

The webinar will feature a discussion of DEP's 2025 report on [Safeguarding Pennsylvania: Resilient Microgrids In Our Communities](#) that focuses on

identifying opportunities for deploying microgrids and energy storage in Pennsylvania.

Join **Mac Keller**, Manager of Resiliency at SEPA, and **Sarah Pinter**, Energy Program Specialist at DEP, to discuss this report and to help stakeholders gain insights into how microgrids can help critical infrastructure remain operational during outages.

They will also review how to leverage certain tools to guide decision-making and to accelerate resilience investments in our own communities or regions.

In addition, **Cat Pantelas**, Sr. Program Manager at the PA Solar Center, will join to guide participants through a case study that modeled a microgrid at a health center as part of the [PA Solar Center's GET Solar Program](#).

The PA Solar Center's **Amelia Eggan** will also share data on the solar potential for critical infrastructure in southwestern and southeastern Pennsylvania. This data was collected by the [PA SolarCorps](#), the PA Solar Center's volunteer mapping program.

[Click Here to register and for more information.](#)

Visit DEP's [Energy Assurance and Resiliency](#) webpage for more information on this issue.

Join Energy Independence For PA

[Energy Independence for PA](#) is a campaign run by the PA Solar Center and Solar United Neighbors that will train about 100 volunteers across Pennsylvania over the next six months to become Energy Leaders so they can communicate the benefits of renewable energy to their communities.

[Click Here for more information.](#)

The [Pennsylvania Solar Center](#) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit effort to raise the awareness of the benefits of solar energy in Pennsylvania. [Click Here to sign up](#) for regular updates.

Resource Links - Microgrids, Energy Storage:

-- DEP LinkedIn: [Power When It Matters Most: How Microgrids Are Making Pennsylvania More Resilient](#)

-- House Energy Committee [Hears How Geothermal Energy Could Meet 100% Of PA's Electricity, Heating Needs Offering True Energy Independence And Freedom From Foreign Energy Markets Costing Pennsylvanians Billions](#) [PaEN]

-- PA House Energy Committee [Hears How Virtual Power Plants, Advanced Transmission Line Technologies Allow Us To Quickly Get More Out Of Our Energy Infrastructure In Less Time, Without Huge Investments Or Delays](#) [PaEN]

-- Senate DEP Budget Hearing: [How Energy Storage Can Add Capacity To The Grid: Chesapeake Bay Cleanup](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Seeks Proposals [For Electric Generation, Battery Storage To Quickly Enter Service To Feed Rising Energy Demands From A.I. Data Centers, Improve Grid Reliability, Address High Energy Costs](#) [PaEN]

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City Of Pittsburgh To Develop Solar Energy Facility On Steel Slag Disposal Area In Swisshelm Park To Cut Energy Costs By \$2.6 Million At 4 Public Schools



On April 7, the City of Pittsburgh Urban Redevelopment Authority announced plans to enter into a 25-year lease agreement with [Capital Good Fund](#) to develop a solar energy facility on a 15-acre site in Swisshelm Park.

Capital Good Fund is the Community Development Financial Institution development partner of Pittsburgh Public Schools, whose plans on the site could generate enough renewable energy to offset 100% of the electricity demand at four local schools.

Over the 25-year lease, the district would save over \$2.6 million in electricity expenses.

The site at 1096 Goodman Street has been controlled by the URA since 1972 when it was purchased from Duquesne Slag Products Company and has been under a Consent Order and Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection since 2000.

After a community engagement process, the site will be remediated and used for the solar array as well as the extension of Frick Park, which will minimize neighborhood traffic impacts, preserve more park land and support the City's climate action goals.

In 2024, the URA was awarded a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Cleanup Grant to remediate the site in preparation for development.

Cleanup is now approximately 95% complete, with full remediation anticipated by August 2026.

The transition from a post-industrial slag brownfield to a clean energy “brightfield” will safely reactivate the site, meet community goals and provide lower cost renewable energy.

Visit the URA [Swisshelm Park Solar Project](#) webpage for more information.

[Click Here for the announcement.](#)

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-- Williamsport Sun: [Panelists Compare Coming A.I. Data Centers To What Shale Gas Did To The Region; 'This Isn't Something That You Stop' Said PPL President 'It's Something You Are Responsible With'](#) [PDF of Article]

-- WHYY - Sophia Schmidt: [PA A.I. Data Centers: How State Lawmakers Are Responding, From Electricity And Water Use To Proposing More Tax Breaks](#)

-- Utility Dive: [Pennsylvania DEP Seeks Potential Fast-Track Energy Storage, Generation Projects In Response To PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#)

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[Posted: April 7, 2026]

Powering PA Forward: Broad Coalition Forms To Champion Smart Energy Policies, Protect PA Jobs And Economic Growth



On April 8, a broad coalition of labor organizations, community leaders, business groups, trade associations, small businesses and community advocates announced the formation of [Powering PA Forward](#).

Speaking in one voice, Powering PA Forward will advocate for smart, long-term energy policies that ensure Pennsylvania families and businesses have access to reliable and affordable energy, and that those who deliver it can continue to invest in the infrastructure and jobs that power the Commonwealth's economy.

Powering PA Forward's creation comes at a critical time as PJM, the regional grid operator, and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation both agree that Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic region face a growing gap between energy supply and demand.

The Commonwealth is seeing new economic activity, including advanced manufacturing, electrification and proposed data center development, which is placing increasing demands on the grid.

To meet this growth, Pennsylvania needs new generation capacity, but without policy action, families and businesses will see higher energy costs, strained reliability and a competitive disadvantage that will cost jobs.

"It's time to tell the story of the tremendous benefits utilities provide to communities all across this Commonwealth," **said Jon O'Brien, executive director of the Keystone Contractors Association.** "Utilities are putting people to work, constantly upgrading their equipment and heavily contributing to our tax base.

"Powering PA Forward looks forward to telling this economic development success story, while at the same time calling for critical improvements to Pennsylvania's energy policies that put families and small businesses first."

In a [letter to announce the coalition's formation](#), Powering PA Forward members wrote--

"Just this past December, PJM, the regional entity responsible for ensuring that there is enough supply to meet demand, held a competitive auction that failed to secure enough power to meet its current reliability target for the first time.

"Without sufficient supply, electric utilities, which are obligated to meet customer energy demands, will be unable to fulfill their legal obligations.

"This will result in reduced reliability of electric service and lost economic opportunities.

"If the generation shortfall goes unaddressed, costs will continue to rise, and Pennsylvanians could face the prospect of rolling blackouts or brownouts as energy becomes a scarce commodity.

“For nearly 9 million families and businesses that depend on reliable, affordable energy, the consequences would be severe.”

Pennsylvania’s regulated utilities are a critical part of the solution.

Overseen by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, these utilities are accountable to both regulatory agencies and the communities they serve.

They deliver energy to nearly 9 million Pennsylvania residents and businesses, reinvesting over \$3 billion annually into infrastructure upgrades, electric lines, pipelines and grid modernization that support nearly 15,000 jobs for Pennsylvania.

That investment is only possible when sound energy policy provides a stable foundation.

“Utilities then invest \$3 billion annually from their regulated profits into infrastructure projects that put Pennsylvanians to work,” **said Matt Espenshade, president of the Pennsylvania State Grange.** “Powering PA Forward wants to protect these investments and the jobs they create, and work to find a long-term solution to address our energy needs. That’s a strategy that will benefit our agriculture industry and all Pennsylvanians.”

In only a short time, the following organizations have signed on to be Powering PA Forward members: Adams County Economic Alliance; America's Rural Energy Coalition; Builders Guild of Western PA; Butler County Chamber of Commerce; Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce; Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry; Columbia Montour Chamber of Commerce; Delaware County Chamber of Commerce; Electrical Association of Philadelphia; Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership; Focus Central PA; Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce; Harrisburg Regional Chamber & CREDC; Juniata River Valley Chamber; Keystone Contractors Association; Lancaster Chamber of Commerce; Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce; Manufacturer & Business Association; NAIOP Pittsburgh; NFIB-PA Chapter; Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Association; PA Association of Milk Dealers; PA Builders Association; Pennsylvania State Grange; Penn’s Northeast; Penn-Northwest Development Corporation; PennAg Industries Association; Pittsburgh Works Together; Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce; Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce; West Shore Chamber of Commerce; and Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber of Commerce.

Visit the [Powering PA Forward](#) website for more information and an updated membership list.

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[Posted: April 8, 2026]

PA Extends Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year

On April 8, the Department of Human Services announced an extension of the [Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program \(LIHEAP\)](#) season from April 10 to May 8, 2026.

Following a delayed opening due to the federal government shutdown, DHS has adequate funding to continue the current season.

DHS urged Pennsylvanians who are behind on or having trouble paying home heating bills to apply for LIHEAP Cash and LIHEAP Crisis benefits before the new May 8 deadline.

Despite calls from the Trump Administration to defund this program that provides life-sustaining heating assistance so Pennsylvanians can safely heat their homes during the coldest months of the year, there are currently no changes to LIHEAP or this season's program in



Pennsylvania.

[Click Here for the DHS announcement.](#)

Resource Link:

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[Posted: April 8, 2026]

Bloomberg: PJM Interconnection Announces Emergency Proposal Seeking 15 Gigawatts Of New Power Supplies To Address Potential Shortages Caused By A.I. Data Center Demand

On [April 10, Bloomberg reported](#) the [PJM Interconnection](#) is seeking 15 gigawatts of new power supplies in an emergency proposal under its [Reliability Backstop Procurement Process](#) to address potential electricity shortages stemming from the boom in artificial intelligence.

PJM [said on its website Fridays](#) it would match proposed data centers with new power plants.

This process would take place from September through March 2027.

Late next week, PJM will ask how many suitors on both sides are interested in participating in bilateral negotiations, along with terms such as contract duration.

PJM already is bracing for a multi-gigawatt supply shortage in the summer of 2027.

The shortfall may reach 60 gigawatts over the next decade, which would equal the output of 60 big nuclear reactors.

Should the initiative-- which may include resuscitating retired plants and upgrading existing facilities-- fail to attract enough new supply, grid managers plan to pursue a second-phase process.

It's unclear how much the new power supplies will cost but the price tag for building natural gas-fired plants have more than doubled in the past five years.

Details of the proposal will be reviewed next week before a final vote is held by PJM stakeholders in late May.

The final plan will be submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for approval in early June.

[Click Here to read the entire article.](#)

The [PJM Interconnection](#) coordinates the wholesale electricity grid and markets for all or parts of 13 states—Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia—plus the District of Columbia.

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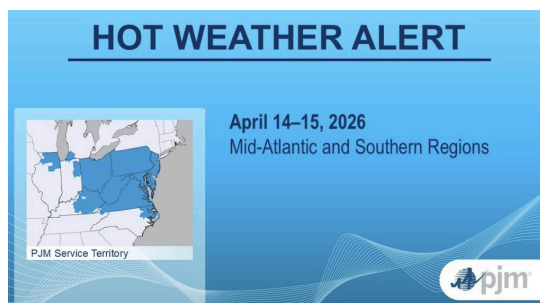
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[Posted: April 11, 2026]

PJM Interconnection Issues Hot Weather Alert For Mid-Atlantic (Pennsylvania), Southern Regions For April 14-15



On April 10, the [PJM Interconnection](#) issued a Hot Weather Alert for its Mid-Atlantic and Southern regions for April 14–15 ahead of forecasted unusually warm and humid spring weather. A Hot Weather Alert is a routine procedure PJM issues ahead of forecasted hot weather and/or high

humidity to prepare transmission and generation personnel and facilities for expected increases in electricity demand, or load.

This procedure does not require any action from customers.

Temperatures are expected to approach 90 degrees in these regions, which is atypical for mid-April.

The Mid-Atlantic Region is made up of the following transmission zones in Pennsylvania: Met-Ed, Penelec, PECO Electric and PPL Electric.

As of 11 a.m. on Friday, April 10, PJM expects to serve the following approximate loads April 13–15:

-- Monday, April 13: 98,200 MW

-- Tuesday, April 14: 109,200 MW

-- Wednesday, April 15: 114,000 MW

PJM's record summer peak is 165,563 MW, set in 2006.

[Click Here for the PJM announcement.](#)

The [PJM Interconnection](#) coordinates the wholesale electricity grid and markets for all or parts of 13 states—Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia—plus the District of Columbia.

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Chesapeake Bay Foundation Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding



On April 8, the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation](#), represented by [Earthjustice](#), joined a coalition of organizations from across the country filing a lawsuit over the [federal repeal of the greenhouse gas endangerment finding](#).

Since it was issued in 2009, the endangerment finding has supported regulations that fight climate change and its harm to people and the environment.

The Chesapeake Bay is on the front lines of climate change threats. Those include:

- **Sea level rise and flooding** from increasingly intense storms overwhelm marshes and wetlands and damage homes and businesses in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C.
 - **Extreme heat** exacerbated by climate change hurts people, plants, and animals across our region.
 - **Stronger and more frequent storms** due to climate change add pollution to the Bay. Heavy rains increase polluted runoff and sewer overflows and intensify erosion. This dumps more nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment into rivers and the Bay, contributing to dead zones and algal blooms.
 - **Warmer water holds less oxygen** and stresses aquatic life, from brook trout to striped bass.
- CBF has worked for years to address threats from climate change.
- That includes planting trees to cool city streets that bake during heat waves, installing living shorelines that use nature to protect waterfronts from storms, and working with farmers to build healthier soil that’s more resilient to droughts and flooding.

CBF Senior Vice President for Programs Alison Hooper Prost issued the following statement--

“Climate change is already harming people and the Chesapeake Bay, regardless of the Trump Administration’s ridiculous claims. This latest rollback is a threat to us all.

“Flooding and sea level rise are walloping communities up and down the Bay. Heat waves send people to hospitals from Baltimore to Richmond. Warmer waters are driving away striped bass, brook trout, and other wildlife. And increasingly intense storms are washing more pollution into rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.

“We’re proud to join our partners in fighting this rollback that endangers everyone’s future.”

[Click Here for a copy of the lawsuit.](#)

For more on Chesapeake Bay-related issues in Pennsylvania, visit the [Chesapeake Bay Foundation-PA](#) webpage. [Click Here](#) to sign up for Pennsylvania updates (bottom of left column). [Click Here](#) to support their work.

Also visit the [Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership](#) to learn how you can help clean water grow on trees.

Related Articles This Week:

- House Energy Committee [To Meet April 13 To Consider GeoThermal Energy, Advanced Transmission Line Technology, PA Energy Development Authority Bills; Sets April 14 Hearing On Net Metering](#) [PaEN]
- City Of Pittsburgh [To Develop Solar Energy Facility On Steel Slag Disposal Area In Swisshelm Park To Cut Energy Costs By \\$2.6 Million At 4 Public Schools](#) [PaEN]
- EPA Moves [To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware](#) [PaEN]
- PUC Raises Cost, [Other Concerns With Proposed 222 Mile Kammer Juniata Electric Transmission Line Project Going Through 10 PA Counties](#) [To Help Feed A.I. Data Center Demands In Eastern PA] [PaEN]
- Powering PA Forward: [Broad Coalition Forms To Champion Smart Energy Policies, Protect PA Jobs And Economic Growth](#) [PaEN]
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- WHYY - Sophia Schmidt: [PA A.I. Data Centers: How State Lawmakers Are Responding, From Electricity And Water Use To Proposing More Tax Breaks](#)
- The Center Square: [Non-Disclosure Agreements With Local Officials On A.I. Data Centers Spur Talk Of ‘Secret Deals’](#)
- TribLive: [Duquesne Light Asks FERC To Lower PJM Price Cap From \\$325/MW/Day To The Current Floor Of \\$175/MW/Day To Save Customers \\$10/Month](#)
- PATownHall.com Guest Essay: [PA Manufacturers’ Association Opposes Caps On Price Of Electricity, Energy - Because The Competitive Market Works](#) [PDF of Article]
- WHYY: [Gov. Shapiro Calls PECO ‘s Proposed 12.5% Electric, 11.4% Natural Gas Increase ‘Pure Greed’](#)
- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Green Group Gives Pennsylvania ‘F’ On Solar Energy Facility Permitting](#)

-- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President's Proposed Budget Cuts](#)

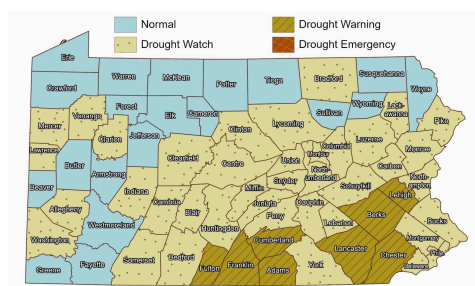
-- Erie Times Guest Essay: [PA Helped Build US Energy Future Once, We Need To Do It Again With More Natural Gas Power Plants](#) - By former State Senator John Peterson [Leaving Us Vulnerable To Price Spikes, With 1,000s Of Abandoned Wells]

-- Ohio Capital Journal: [More Natural Gas Generation Coming To Ohio To Feed A.I. Data Centers](#) [But Will Not Increase Generation Diversity To Avoid Price Spikes For 'Ordinary People']

-- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President's War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)

[Posted: April 8, 2026] [PA Environment Digest](#)

DEP: Recent Precipitation Leads To Improved Drought Conditions, But Additional Recovery Is Needed



On April 6, the Department of Environmental Protection posted a [revised drought conditions map](#) after the latest meeting of the Commonwealth Drought Task Force. Changes to the county classifications include--

-- **Returned To Normal Drought Status:** Beaver, Butler, Jefferson, Tioga

-- **From Warning To Watch:** Carbon, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Northumberland, Northampton, Perry, Schuylkill, Union

-- **Counties under Drought Warning:** Adams, Berks, Chester, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Lancaster, Lehigh

-- **Counties in Drought Watch:** Allegheny, Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Bucks, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Dauphin, Delaware, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lackawanna, Lawrence, Lebanon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Juniata, Mercer, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Somerset, Union, Venango, Washington, and York.

DEP said these changes reflect improving conditions across Pennsylvania.

While conditions are improving there is still significant recovery needed in many areas of the Commonwealth, which is why Watch and Warning Declarations continue in many counties.

Mandatory Water Conservation

DEP's [Drought Information](#) webpage includes a list of public water suppliers with mandatory and voluntary water use restrictions.

Visit DEP's [Drought Information](#) webpage for more information on drought conditions.

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

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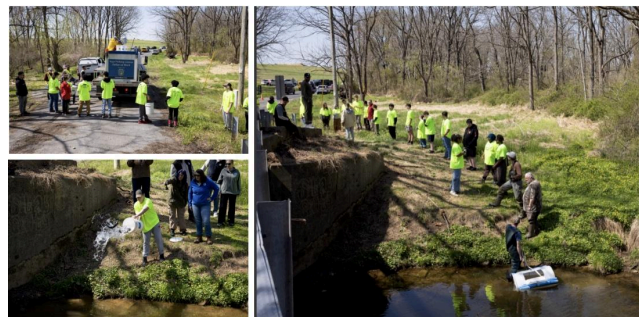
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[Posted: April 11, 2026]

Volunteers, Fish & Boat Commission, DEP Stock Trout In Conowingo Creek, Lancaster County Restored With Help Of State, Federal Funding; New Grant Round Opens April 22

On April 10, Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Jessica Shirley and Fish and Boat Commission Deputy Executive



Director for Administration Laurel Anders stocked brown and rainbow trout in Conowingo Creek alongside volunteers in Lancaster County and highlighted how stream restoration efforts and investments led by DEP are improving water quality and expanding fishing opportunities for anglers across Pennsylvania.

[Click Here for video and photos from the event.](#)

The stocking took place in a restored section of Conowingo Creek supported by [Growing Greener](#) and [Section 319 funding](#)-- programs that reduce pollution, restore waterways, and support healthier aquatic ecosystems-- completed in 2023.

The [project reduces pollution in the creek](#) by an estimated 176 tons of sediment, 1,260 pounds of nitrogen, and 386 pounds of phosphorus annually.

“Programs like Section 319 and Growing Greener clean our streams and rivers by removing nutrient and sediment pollution and making them great for not only the fish but for all the other aquatic life that depends on clean water,” **said Secretary Shirley**. “That clean water is also the source of drinking water for more than 11 million Pennsylvanians, so it is more than just the fish that are benefitting from these projects — it is the people of Pennsylvania as well.

“These projects don’t get onto the ground and into the water without the support and partnership of county conservation districts, local watershed groups, and other partners that all help us realize these successes.”

"Trout require cold, clean water, and the improvements we're seeing throughout the Commonwealth are resulting in remarkable fisheries," **said Anders**. "Whether it's the presence of wild trout in thousands of miles of streams across Pennsylvania, or the ability for us to stock millions of hatchery-raised trout for seasonal angling opportunities, these fisheries wouldn't be possible without a commitment to restoration efforts.”

New Grant Round Opens

DEP also announced that applications for Growing Greener and Section 319 grants will reopen April 22 through June 22, 2026, supporting projects that restore streams, improve watersheds, and reduce pollution statewide.

Growing Greener represents the largest single investment of state funds in Pennsylvania’s history to address environmental challenges.

In the 2025 grant round, 77 projects were selected to restore streams, improve watersheds, and address legacy pollution from abandoned mine drainage.

The federally funded Section 319 Nonpoint Source Management Grant program supports projects that implement best management practices in [45 watersheds across Pennsylvania](#), with a focus on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

The program also supports updates to Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) and, new this year, includes a Tier III mini grant program offering up to \$15,000 per phase for stream assessment, training, and laboratory analysis.

For more information on funding opportunities, visit DEP’s [Growing Greener](#) and [Section 319](#) webpages.

[Click Here for video and photos from the event.](#)

[Click Here for the DEP announcement.](#)

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-- Volunteers, Fish & Boat [Commission, DEP Stock Trout In Conowingo Creek, Lancaster](#)

[County Restored With Help Of State, Federal Funding; New Grant Round Opens April 22](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP/Environmental Quality Board [Withdraws Proposed Regulation Changing Notification Requirements For Spills, Releases Saying Technical Guidance Is More Appropriate](#) [PaEN]

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[Posted: April 11, 2026]

DEP/Environmental Quality Board Withdraws Proposed Regulation Changing Notification Requirements For Spills, Releases Saying Technical Guidance Is More Appropriate



On April 8, the Department of Environmental Protection [sent a letter to the Independent Regulatory Review Commission](#) on behalf of the Environmental Quality Board withdrawing a proposed regulation from the rulemaking

process that would change notification requirements for spills and releases.

The proposed regulation was intended to provide clarity on the issue of when companies and other responsible parties are required to notify DEP of spills and releases to protect the waters of the Commonwealth from pollution.

The regulation was adopted for proposed rulemaking by the [Board in November 2024](#) and published for comment on April 5, 2025 and was the subject of a public hearing. [Read more here.](#)

In an [April 8 email to EOB members](#) and other stakeholders, DEP said-- “the Board received more than 1,110 public comments and testimony on the proposed rulemaking from the business community, municipal authorities, water utilities, trade associations, environmental groups, local governments, and the public.”

“Considering the competing perspectives from a diverse group of commentators, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) believes that guidance, rather than a regulatory revision, is a better tool for providing increased clarity and basis for consistency on this topic, while allowing for the situation-specific flexibility that is inherently needed when it comes to evaluating the likelihood that any particular unauthorized discharge will threaten or cause pollution to waters of the Commonwealth.

“The Department's goal continues to be to provide more clarity and basis for consistency about which unauthorized discharges require immediate Department notification.

“The Department will be moving to finalize [Guidance on Reporting Requirements for Spills, Discharges, and Other Incidents of a Substance Causing or Threatening Pollution to Waters of the Commonwealth Under Pennsylvania’s Steams Law](#), which was previously published as draft guidance on this topic.

“This guidance will be used as the basis for training regional staff. The Department anticipates publishing the final technical guidance document by the end of 2026.”

“On April 8, 2026, notification of this action was sent to the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, the House Environmental and Natural Resource Protection Committee, and IRRC.”

Questions should be directed to Lauren Imgrund, Director, Policy Office, Department of Environmental Protection, by e-mail at limgrund@pa.gov or by telephone at (717) 772-4052.

Background On Spill Notification

This issue was first raised by Sen. Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming) in 2019 when he introduced [Senate Bill 619](#) that redefined water pollution under the state Clean Streams Law and let companies decide when they should notify DEP of a spill.

The legislation was opposed by [sportsmen, environmental](#), the [PA Environmental Council and Environmental Defense Foundation](#), county conservation districts and many other groups. [Read more here.](#)

The bill was introduced in response to the concerns of Merck Sharp & Dohme Corporation which was unhappy with an April 17, 2017 settlement with DEP over an appeal of a stormwater pollution prevention permit for its West Point, Montgomery County plant (Environmental Hearing Board [Docket No. 2015-011-L](#)).

Legal counsel for Merck testified in favor of Senate Bill 619 on September 30, 2020 before the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee. [Read more here.](#)

The last version of the legislation, changed from the original-- [Senate Bill 286](#) (Yaw-R-Lycoming)-- was reported out of the Senate Environmental Resources and Energy

Committee on January 31, 2023 and Tabled.

Resource Links:

- Environmental Quality Board [Invites Comments On Spill Notification Regulation Changes: May 15 Virtual Hearing](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Invites [Comments On Notification Requirements For Spills, Discharges Threatening To Pollute Streams; Response To Bills Changing Definition Of Water Pollution](#) [PaEN]
- PA Conservation Districts [Oppose Bill Redefining Water Pollution, Letting Polluters Decide When To Report Spills](#) [PaEN]
- 9 PA Sportsmen's, [Watershed, Environmental, Mine Reclamation, Conservation Groups Strongly Support Protective Water Quality Standard For Manganese](#) [PaEN]
- Trout Unlimited [Opposes Senate Bill 619 To Redefine Water Pollution In PA Saying It Will Harm Aquatic Life, Human Health](#) [PaEN]
- PA Environmental Council, [EDF Oppose 'Sweeping And Unwarranted' Changes In Definition Of Water Pollution In Senate Bill 619](#) [PaEN]
- Republicans On [House Environmental Committee Report Out Bill Redefining Water Pollution, Letting Companies Decide When To Report Spills](#) [PaEN]
- House Environmental Committee [Holds Sept. 30 Info Meeting On Bill Redefining Spills, Discharges To Streams As No Longer Pollution](#) [PaEN]
- CBF-PA Urges [House Not To Act On Senate Bill 619 Redefining Water Pollution](#) [PaEN]
- Senate Republicans [Pass Senate Bill 619 Fundamentally Changing Definition Of Water Pollution Effectively Making Spills And Discharges To Streams No Longer Pollution](#) [PaEN]

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[Posted: April 8, 2026]

DEP Invites Submission Of Water Quality Data For Evaluation Of 34 Wild Trout Stream Designations In 19 Counties

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the [April 11 PA Bulletin](#) inviting the submission of water quality and other technical data for the evaluation of the water quality classification of 34 Class A Wild Trout and Wild Trout streams in 19 counties.

The streams are located in Bedford, Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Crawford, Franklin, Indiana, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Luzerne, Mifflin, Montgomery, Montour, Northumberland, Somerset, Tioga, Venango, Westmoreland counties.

Technical data must be submitted by May 11.

Read the [entire PA Bulletin notice](#) for information on how to submit data and other background.

Questions should be directed to: Zachery Fritz at zacfritz@pa.gov or (717) 787-9637.

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

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- [Posted: April 10, 2026]

Stroud Water Research Center: New Clean Water Partnership With University Of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School At New Bolton Center; Bringing Back Eastern Brook Trout; LaMotte Company Honored

The [latest UpStream News](#) from the [Stroud Water Research Center](#) features articles on a new clean water partnership with the University of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School at New Bolton Center, bringing back the eastern brook trout and environmental education honors for LaMotte Company.

New Bolton Center Partnership
Stroud Water Research Center is



pleased to announce a partnership with the University of Pennsylvania's [Veterinary School at New Bolton Center](#) to deliver clean water and restore healthy streams to Chester County.

Widely recognized for its world-class equine hospital, the Veterinary Center is also a 700-acre living laboratory for integrated agriculture and ecosystem research.

Situated at the headwaters of White Clay Creek, the campus plays a pivotal role in protecting soil health, biodiversity, and downstream water quality.

[Click Here to learn more.](#)

LaMotte Company Honored

We're thrilled to share that our partner, the LaMotte Company, has received the 2026 Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators' Business Partner Award.

This statewide recognition celebrates businesses that make meaningful contributions to environmental education across Pennsylvania.

For more than 100 years, LaMotte has been an innovative leader in water-quality analysis and education.

[Click Here to read more.](#)

Eastern Brook Trout

Might brook trout one day swim again in Red Clay Creek? If and when they do, it will be a sign that watershed restoration efforts are working in the stream that runs through southeastern Pennsylvania and northeastern Delaware.

In Pennsylvania, property owners and farmers are transforming their lands to restore a stream's health and its native fish.

[Click Here to read more.](#)

Science Open House

World Water Day 2026 was an exciting day at Stroud Water Research Center. On Saturday, March 21, more than 100 visitors explored the research, education, and watershed restoration work that protects fresh water.

[Click Here to read about some of the fun activities.](#)

[Click Here to read the entire UpStream News.](#) [Click Here to sign up](#) for your own copy.

Upcoming Events

-- **May 9:** [Willowdale Steeplechase, Kennett Square, Chester County](#), to raise funds for Stroud Center and Penn Vet's New Bolton Center.

-- **May 18:** [Fore Fresh Water Golf Invitational](#), Wilmington, DE

Visit [Stroud's Events webpage](#) to learn about more experiences and educational events.

For more information on programs, initiatives and special events, visit the [Stroud Water Research Center](#) website, [Click Here](#) to subscribe to UpStream. [Click Here](#) to become a Friend Of Stroud Research, [Like them on Facebook](#), [Follow on Twitter](#) and visit their [YouTube Channel](#).

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[Posted: April 9, 2026]

Susquehanna River Basin Commission Releases 2025 Annual Report Highlighting Data Center, Natural Gas Water Use, Climate Change, Road Salt Study, More

On April 8, the [Susquehanna River Basin Commission](#) released its [2025 Annual Report](#) highlighting key work in water resource management, scientific monitoring, watershed restoration, and drought coordination.

This year's report can be [viewed as a visual](#), easy to click through slideshow or you may [download a PDF](#).

Among the many topics you'll learn about:

- New Water Use in the Basin – [Data Centers](#)
- [Climate Change](#) Study

- [Natural Gas](#) Water Use Report (2024 Update)
- Final [Road Salt](#) Study
- Chesapeake Bay Watershed Region [Freshwater Mussel Partnership](#)
- [Conowingo Watershed Implementation Plan](#)
- Increased Transparency through [WAAV](#)
[Click Here for a copy of the 2025 Annual Report.](#)

For more information on programs, training opportunities and upcoming events, visit the [Susquehanna River Basin Commission](#) website. [Click Here](#) to sign up for SRBC's newsletter. [Follow SRBC on Twitter](#), [visit them on YouTube](#).

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- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Invites [Submission Of Water Quality Data For Evaluation Of 34 Wild Trout Stream Designations In 19 Counties](#) [PaEN]
- DEP State Water Plan [Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants](#) [PaEN]
- Stroud Water Research Center: [New Clean Water Partnership With University Of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School At New Bolton Center; Bringing Back Eastern Brook Trout; LaMotte Company Honored](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension, [Tri-County Conewago Creek Assn. Hold April 25 Volunteer Riparian Buffer Planting](#) In Elizabethtown, Lancaster County. 1:00 p.m.
- Susquehanna River [Basin Commission Releases 2025 Annual Report Highlighting Data Center, Natural Gas Water Use, Climate Change, Road Salt Study, More](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- PA Capital-Star: [President's ICE Has Appealed DEP Orders Requiring Sewage, Drinking Water Plans For Proposed Warehouse Detention Centers In Berks, Schuylkill County](#)
- The Allegheny Front: [Profile: Carol Parenzan, From Environmental Engineer To 'Water Healer'](#)
- FOX43: [Chesapeake Bay Foundation Gives Students Hands-On Education On The Conodoguinet Creek](#)
- Courier Express: [Toby Creek Watershed Assn. Highlights Abandoned Mine Drainage Treatment Efforts In Jefferson County](#)
- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [Rain Garden Construction Underway At Luzerne County's Operations Building In Wyoming](#)
- Scranton Times: [Scranton Plans 2 More Stormwater Projects In Flood-Prone Keyser Valley](#)

[Using COVID Recovery Funds](#)

-- [TheDerrick.com: Knox Agrees To Settlement With DEP Over Wastewater Plant Violations](#)

-- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)

[Posted: April 8, 2026]

DEP: Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act Brings Clean Drinking Water To Community In Lancaster County Contaminated By Trichloroethylene (TCE); Future Cleanup Funding In Doubt



On April 10, Department of Environmental Protection Secretary Jessica Shirley visited a Lancaster County community that now has access to clean drinking water thanks to the [Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act Program](#).

The visit highlighted both the success of the project and the need for sustained funding to continue similar efforts across Pennsylvania.

“People here are now enjoying clean, pollution-free drinking water because of HSCA, but future projects could be in jeopardy due to the lack of consistent, long-term funding,” **said Secretary Shirley**. “Governor Shapiro supports and believes in HSCA, and his budget proposal provides temporary support, but the program still needs a sustainable funding solution. Without one, successful projects like this will not be possible.”

Homes and businesses in the Intercourse Village area of Leacock Township had relied on private wells for drinking water.

More than 20 years ago, DEP found that the groundwater supplying those wells was contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE).

When no responsible party could be identified, a feasibility study recommended constructing a public water system to serve the area.

Through HSCA, more than \$22 million was invested in the engineering and construction of a new public water system, which became fully operational in 2020 and now provides safe drinking water to the community.

[Click Here for a factsheet on the Intercourse TCE Site.](#)

Future Funding In Doubt

Governor Shapiro has proposed a one-time \$20 million transfer in the 2026–27 budget proposal(opens in a new tab) to support HSCA, which will allow for state-led site investigations and remediation projects.

The HSCA program conducts initial investigations into land and water pollution to identify responsible parties.

When none can be found, HSCA funding supports cleanup solutions such as land remediation and water treatment.

The program also drives economic development by supporting redevelopment through

Pennsylvania's Act 2 program, which has approved 13,688 cleanups across all 67 counties since 1995.

Visit DEP's [Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program](#) webpage to learn more about this program.

[Click Here for DEP's announcement.](#)

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

Related Articles This Week:

-- DEP To Hold [May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP: Hazardous Sites [Cleanup Act Brings Clean Drinking Water To Community In Lancaster County Contaminated By Trichloroethylene \(TCE\); Future Cleanup Funding In Doubt](#) [PaEN]

-- DCED Awards [\\$125,625 Grant To Bucks County Redevelopment Authority To Make A Site Safe For New Residential Development In Sellersville Borough](#) [PaEN]

[Posted: April 11, 2026]

DEP To Hold May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge

The Department of Environmental Protection published notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing a May 11 hearing on the response to the [North Centre Township PFAS 'forever chemicals' site](#) in Columbia County under the state Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act. ([PA Bulletin, page 2068](#))

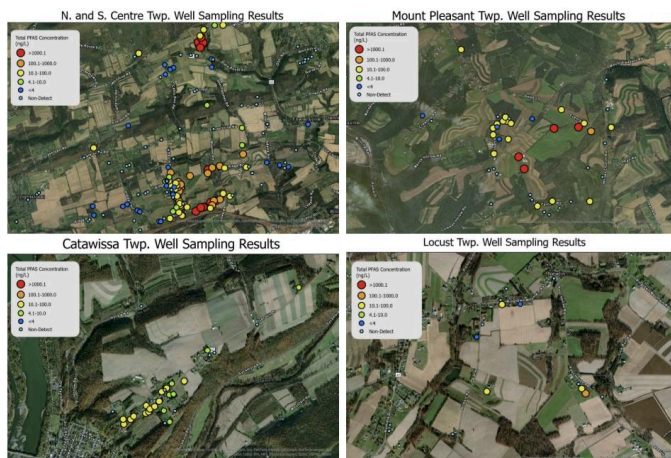
The investigation area for the PFAS contamination has been expanded to include 12 municipalities-- the Town of Bloomsburg, Beaver, Briar Creek, Catawissa, Fishing Creek, Locust, Main, Mount Pleasant, North Centre, Orange, Scott and South Centre townships in Columbia County.

Background

The initial investigation was centered in a half mile radius around water supply wells located at the Brookside Village Mobile Home Park in North Centre Township following detection of PFAS contamination above the federal drinking water standard.

Sampling of private water wells found additional PFAS contamination around that well.

The investigation then expanded to include the identification of areas where the Bloomsburg Municipal Authority land applied wastewater sewage sludge on farms in the 1980-1990s.



Sampling of soils on two farms in North Centre Township where sewage sludge was applied found PFAS contamination.

To date, additional water well sampling in the twelve separate municipalities found PFAS levels above drinking water MCLs in seven municipalities.

DEP's work plan includes additional sampling of water wells and soils on and near farms where sewage sludge was applied.

Where water well sample results show PFAS contamination above the federal standard, DEP has arranged for delivery of bottled water and the installation of water treatment systems as its initial response.

May 11 Hearing

The hearing will be held at the Central Columbia High School Auditorium 4777 Old Berwick Road in Bloomsburg starting at 7:00 p.m.

An open house will be held starting at 5:00 p.m. with DEP staff that will include a brief presentation on the site.

Anyone interested in presenting comments during the formal public hearing must register via email at RA-EPNCECCOMMENTS@pa.gov, or by phone at 570-327-3418.

Public Comments

DEP will be accepting public comments on the Administrative Record for this expanded site and response until July 10.

Any person may submit written comments into the record during this time only by sending them electronically to RA-EPNCECCOMMENTS@pa.gov, by mail to Cheryl Sinclair at DEP's Northcentral Regional Office, 208 W. 3rd St, Suite 101, Williamsport, PA 17701, or by delivering them to this office in person.

The Administrative Record and other background information on this area of investigation is available at DEP's [North Centre Township HSCA Investigation](#) webpage.

Questions should be directed to: RA-EPNCECCOMMENTS@pa.gov, or by phone at 570-327-3418.

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

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-- DCED Awards [\\$125,625 Grant To Bucks County Redevelopment Authority To Make A Site Safe For New Residential Development In Sellersville Borough](#) [PaEN]

[Posted: April 10, 2026]

DCED Awards \$125,625 Grant To Bucks County Redevelopment Authority To Make A Site Safe For New Residential Development In Sellersville Borough

On April 10, Department of Community and Economic Development Secretary Rick Siger

announced the approval of \$125,625 through the [Industrial Sites Reuse Program](#) (ISRP) to the [Bucks County Redevelopment Authority](#) to perform site remediation at 900 East Clymer Avenue in Sellersville Borough-- paving the way for new residential development.

The approximately 4.9-acre brownfield site was historically used as an industrial manufacturer of air pressure and temperature gauges until the mid-1990s.

Following the remediation work, the site will meet environmental conditions for residential redevelopment under DEP's [Land Recycling Program](#), creating a shovel-ready site for developers.

"Transforming former industrial sites into new opportunities is how we build stronger, healthier communities across Pennsylvania," **said DCED Secretary Rick Siger**. "This investment will help turn a long-idle property in Sellersville into a safe, productive space for residential development — supporting local revitalization while protecting public health.

"Through programs like the Industrial Sites Reuse Program, we're continuing to make strategic investments that prepare sites for their next chapter and position our communities for long-term growth."

ISRP funds will be used for soil remediation, closure and removal of an abandoned 20,000-gallon underground storage tank and quarterly groundwater sampling.

"The Industrial Sites Reuse Program is an important tool to return former brownfields to productive use, and in this case, adding much needed housing stock for Pennsylvania," **said DEP Secretary Jessica Shirley**. "Supported by an annual \$3 million transfer from the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund, the Land Recycling Program collaborates with DCED to provide grants and loans that help finance environmental assessments and site cleanups throughout Pennsylvania. Governor Josh Shapiro has called for \$20 million for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund so that we can continue putting projects like this one on the ground."

Governor Shapiro has called for an additional \$20 million for the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Fund in his 2026-27 Budget Proposal to protect Pennsylvanians from dangerous toxic waste sites and repurpose the land for economic development.

For too long, hazardous waste sites, abandoned mine lands, and abandoned wells have sat vacant and released toxic chemicals into the environment because Pennsylvania didn't have the resources or the speed to get projects up and running.

Under the Shapiro Administration, we're working to fix that — building shovel-ready sites, cleaning up abandoned mine land and hazardous waste sites so communities can put those areas back to good use, and aggressively plugging abandoned or orphaned wells that are polluting our air and water.

The ISRP provides loans and grants for environmental assessments and remediation carried out by eligible applicants who did not cause or contribute to the contamination.

The program is designed to foster the cleanup of environmental contamination at industrial sites, thereby bringing blighted land into productive reuse.

Visit the DCED [Industrial Sites Reuse Program](#) webpage to learn more.

[Click Here for the DCED announcement.](#)

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-- DEP To Hold [May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP: Hazardous Sites [Cleanup Act Brings Clean Drinking Water To Community In Lancaster](#)

[County Contaminated By Trichloroethylene \(TCE\); Future Cleanup Funding In Doubt](#) [PaEN]
-- DCED Awards [\\$125,625 Grant To Bucks County Redevelopment Authority To Make A Site Safe For New Residential Development In Sellersville Borough](#) [PaEN]
[Posted: April 11, 2026]

PA Recycling Markets Center Study: Recycling Industries Support Over 319,000 Jobs, Contributes \$130.5 Billion To The Economy - Over 3 Times That Of The Shale Gas Industry

On April 8, the Department of Environmental Protection, Armstrong World Industries, Inc., and the [Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center](#) released the findings of the [2026 Economic Impact of Recycling in Pennsylvania Report](#), developed by the Pennsylvania RMC in cooperation with John Dunham Associates.

The study measures how the act of Pennsylvania's recycling is a vital part of the economy in the Commonwealth, creating jobs, economic value, taxes, and salary within the borders of the Commonwealth.

Key findings of the Recycling Economic Impact Study include--

-- The recycling industry in Pennsylvania is responsible for **319,628 full-time equivalent jobs** in the state.

-- In total, the recycling industry is responsible for **\$130.5 billion of economic activity**, or roughly 7.2% of the state's economic output.

-- The recycling industry directly accounts for nearly **\$76.9 billion in economic activity at firms or entities collecting and processing** recycled materials, firms or entities promoting the reuse of goods and materials, and firms utilizing recycled materials as part of their production process.

[For a comparison, the recycling industry supports two and a half times the number of jobs as the shale gas industry-- 319,628 vs. [123,000](#); is responsible for over three times the economic output-- \$130.5 billion vs. [\\$41 billion](#); and pays three and a half times the federal, state and local taxes-- \$11.2 billion vs. [\\$3.2 billion](#).]

"Recycling is more than just keeping waste out of landfills – it is also a huge economic engine, providing local jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity," **said DEP Secretary Jessica Shirley**. "The aluminum can or cardboard box that goes into the recycling bin instead of the trash can helps keep Pennsylvania's economy growing and reduces the need for raw natural resources."

"Most people don't realize that recycling is big business in Pennsylvania; your recycling is an ingredient in someone else's new product," **said Robert J. Bylone, Jr., CEO, President of the Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center**. "Simply, recycling works – with real people, in real places."

Many of these companies that contributed to the study, including Armstrong World Industries, a leader in the design and manufacture of innovative interior and exterior architectural applications, incorporate recycled content feedstocks into their manufacturing processes.

Among other materials, including reclaimed ceiling panels, Armstrong manufactures many products from recycled newsprint and plastic bottles.

"Today sustainability is part of our culture," **said Amy Costello, Product Stewardship and Sustainability Manager at Armstrong**. "Just like Armstrong did over 165 years ago, the

company is still finding innovative ways to use recycled feedstocks in our product lines without sacrificing quality and while growing profit. It is circularity at its best.”

[Click Here for a copy of the report.](#) [Click Here for a one page summary.](#)

Visit the [Pennsylvania Recycling Markets Center](#) website to learn more about the recycling industry and the assistance available to reuse or recycle materials as part of your business.

Related Articles This Week:

-- PA Recycling Markets Center Study: [Recycling Industries Support Over 319,000 Jobs: Contributes \\$130.5 Billion To The Economy - Over 3 Times That Of The Shale Gas Industry](#) [PaEN]

-- Independence Conservancy [To Hold 3 Waste Tire Collection Events In Allegheny, Beaver Counties Starting April 25](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- Inquirer: [Philly's Clean And Green Office Wants 'Vast Network' Of Surveillance Cameras To Catch Illegal Dumpers](#)

-- DailyLocal.com: ['I Can't Stand Litter:' Chester County Employees Among Crew Cleaning Up 'Filthy' Caln Road](#)

-- WHYY: [Philadelphia Could Extend Controversial Chester Trash Incineration Contract Amid Criticism](#)

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [DEP Holds Public Meeting On Proposed Waste Transfer Station In Hazleton](#)

-- Chesapeake Bay Journal: [DEP Fines Eureka Resources \\$100,000 For Oil & Gas Wastewater Spills, Other Violations In Bradford, Lycoming County](#)

-- Post-Gazette/AP: [President's EPA Proposes Gutting Rules Targeting Coal Plant Ash Pollution That Threatens Groundwater](#)

-- NRDC: [EPA Proposes To Weaken Safeguards Against Coal Ash Pollution In Groundwater](#)

-- EPA [Proposes More Changes To Disposal Of Coal Combustion Residuals And Beneficial Use Requirements](#)

[Posted: April 9, 2026]

Independence Conservancy To Hold 3 Waste Tire Collection Events In Allegheny, Beaver Counties Starting April 25

The [Independence Conservancy](#) will hold three waste tire collection events in Allegheny and Beaver Counties to allow residents to get rid of tires or wheels from cars and light trucks.

The Conservancy is holding the events in cooperation with these municipalities from 9:00 a.m. to Noon --

-- **April 25:** Findlay Township Public Works Dept., 1058 Clinton Rd., Clinton, Allegheny County;

-- **May 2:** Big Knob Grange, 336 Grange Rd., Rochester, Beaver County; and

-- **May 9:** Aliquippa Street Dept., 1497 Kennedy Blvd., Aliquippa, Beaver County.

Tires on rims are accepted. Individuals and small businesses are welcome. No proof of residency is required, no pre-registration is required, and there is no limit to the number of tires or wheels any one person may bring.

Disposal fees--

- Auto and light truck tires up to 18" off-rim are \$5 each; \$10 if on-rim;
- SUV and light truck tires 19" through 22" off-rim are \$7 each;
- Tractor trailer tires up to 22.5" are \$25 each; and
- Farm tractor rear tires up to 75 lbs. are \$35 each; and over 75 lbs. are priced by weight.

Pay by cash or check only, please.

Independence Conservancy offers community tire collections to provide convenient, affordable disposal of scrap tires, thus reducing the risk of West Nile, Zika and other diseases by eliminating stagnant water where mosquitoes breed.

Since 2004, Independence Conservancy has properly disposed of over 66,000 tires through this program, reinvesting all proceeds into clean water and open green space.

The [Independence Conservancy](#) is a nonprofit 501c3 land conservation and environmental stewardship organization active in Beaver, Washington and Allegheny Counties.

Related Articles This Week:

- PA Recycling Markets Center Study: [Recycling Industries Support Over 319,000 Jobs; Contributes \\$130.5 Billion To The Economy - Over 3 Times That Of The Shale Gas Industry](#) [PaEN]
- Independence Conservancy [To Hold 3 Waste Tire Collection Events In Allegheny, Beaver Counties Starting April 25](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- Inquirer: [Philly's Clean And Green Office Wants 'Vast Network' Of Surveillance Cameras To Catch Illegal Dumpers](#)
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- Post-Gazette/AP: [President's EPA Proposes Gutting Rules Targeting Coal Plant Ash Pollution That Threatens Groundwater](#)
- NRDC: [EPA Proposes To Weaken Safeguards Against Coal Ash Pollution In Groundwater](#)
- EPA [Proposes More Changes To Disposal Of Coal Combustion Residuals And Beneficial Use Requirements](#)

[Posted: April 6, 2026] [PA Environment Digest](#)

Pennsylvania Invests More Than \$10.2 Million To Ensure 31 Farms, 2,645 Acres Of Prime Farmland In 20 Counties Stay Farms Forever

On April 9, the Department of Agriculture announced Pennsylvania is investing more than \$10.2 million to purchase development rights for 2,645 acres on 31 farms in 20 counties, protecting them from future residential or commercial development and continuing the Administration's support of one of Pennsylvania's key industries.

Farms were preserved in Berks, Bucks, Butler, Carbon, Chester, Cumberland, Franklin, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lehigh, Luzerne, Mercer, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton,

Northumberland, Schuylkill, Washington, Westmoreland and York counties.

“Pennsylvania leads the nation in preserved farmland, thanks to the unwavering commitment of our farm families and strong support at every level of government,” **Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding said.** “Many of these farmers have been offered the opportunity to sell their land for development, but they’ve chosen instead to stay committed to feeding our Commonwealth and carrying on their families’ farming traditions. The Shapiro Administration is honoring that commitment by protecting farmland and investing in the innovation and infrastructure needed to sustain Pennsylvania agriculture for generations to come.”

Among the farm families that chose to preserve their farms today are farmers Robert Pardoe Jr. and John Marsteller Jr., who have resisted the pressure to sell their land for development, choosing instead to preserve their farms and continue farming in Northumberland and York counties.

The Marsteller farm, for example, includes seven parcels creating a 2,700-acre block of preserved farmland. This will be the Marsteller family’s fourth preserved easement since setting a state record with a 1,063-acre easement in 1993.

“It’s been important for me and my family to not only farm the land, but to make sure that there are farms, and productive ones, for the future,” **Marsteller said.** “My mom always said that I was born on a tractor. I’ve been driving trucks and tractors since I was five years old. I was born and raised on the same farm that I live on today.”

Pennsylvania leads the nation in preserved farms. Since 1988, when voters statewide overwhelmingly supported creating the state’s Farmland Preservation Program, Pennsylvania has protected 6,704 farms and 665,585 acres in 58 counties from future development, investing more than \$1.84 billion in state, county, and local funds.

Visit Agriculture’s [Farmland Preservation](#) webpage to learn more about this program.

[Click Here for a list of farms preserved.](#)

NewsClip:

-- WGAL8: [9th Generation Brothers Preserve Pennsylvania’s Oldest Farm After 309 Years In Lancaster County](#)

[Posted: April 9, 2026]

ClearWater Conservancy Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes



On April 8, the [ClearWater Conservancy](#) announced the 2026 schedule for the 10th anniversary [season of Centred Outdoors](#), made possible through support from community partners and funders including [Mount Nittany Health](#), the [Hamer Foundation](#), the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and [Happy Valley Adventure Bureau](#).

Centred Outdoors invites people of all ages and fitness levels to enjoy free guided outdoor adventures throughout Centre County and the surrounding region.

This year marks a major milestone – a decade of helping residents connect with nature,

discover new trails, and explore the landscapes that make Central Pennsylvania special.

The 10th season officially begins the week of April 12 at Dry Hollow, one of ClearWater's conserved easement properties.

Kickoff events will include Guided Outings and an outdoor yoga Wellness Program at Stone Valley Recreation Area, giving participants a chance to reconnect with nature while caring for their physical and mental well-being.

"Mount Nittany Health is honored to carry on our collaboration with ClearWater Conservancy," **said Karissa Thal, MD, of Mount Nittany Health Primary Care.** "Initiatives like Centred Outdoors give community members meaningful ways to enjoy the mental and physical rewards of being outdoors, and we're proud to support a shared commitment to healthier people, stronger community."

To take advantage of the area's best hiking weather and avoid midsummer heat, most programming will run April through June and September through November.

The season features Wellness Wednesdays, weekly evening events incorporating mindfulness practices, forest therapy, art, and other wellness-centered activities. Guided Outings are short, 1- to 2-mile walks appropriate for all ages and experience levels.

Led by knowledgeable guides, these outings offer an engaging way to enjoy nature while learning about local history, wildlife, and conservation.

For those looking for a tougher challenge, Adventure Hikes offer longer, more strenuous treks through scenic and rugged terrain, ideal for outdoor enthusiasts eager to explore deeper into the region's natural spaces.

New - Special Topics

New to this year, Special Topic programs are designed to highlight local partners and introduce participants to a broad range of outdoor-related subjects, activities, and places throughout Central Pennsylvania and beyond.

Each session offers opportunities to build skills, deepen knowledge, and connect with the people and organizations that support the region's outdoor community.

Access to nature is a core priority for Centred Outdoors. The program offers a free gear library to help make time outside safer and more enjoyable.

Participants can reserve trekking poles, child carriers, daypacks or rain jackets for use during Centred Outdoors outings by emailing info@centredoutdoors.org.

Children are welcome at all Guided Outings and can borrow a Jr. Naturalist Toolkit, which includes simple tools and guides to help young explorers observe wildlife, identify plants and engage more deeply with the natural world. Toolkits are available at the check-in table before any Guided Outing.

The full 2026 schedule and registration options for event updates are available at the [Centred Outdoors](#) webpage. All events are free and open to the public.

Additional Support

In addition to funding by Mount Nittany Health and PA DCNR, Centred Outdoors is supported by the Hamer Foundation, Happy Valley Adventure Bureau, and The M&T Charitable Foundation; as well as partners including Appalachian Outdoors; Centre Region Parks and Recreation; Cole Transportation; Jana Marie Foundation; Millbrook Marsh Nature Center; Organic Climbing; Rhoneymede Arboretum and Sculpture Garden; Shaver's Creek Environmental Center; Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited; and Webster's Bookstore & Café.

[Centred Outdoors](#) is a program of ClearWater Conservancy made possible with financial assistance from the Environmental Stewardship Fund Grant from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation. Financial assistance is also provided by the Hamer Foundation, Mount Nittany Health, Happy Valley Adventure Bureau, The M&T Charitable Foundation, and community organizations.

The [ClearWater Conservancy](#) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and nationally accredited land trust with a mission to conserve and restore the natural resources of central Pennsylvania through land conservation, water resources stewardship, and environmental outreach in the community.

[Mount Nittany Health](#) is a comprehensive healthcare system headquartered in State College, Pennsylvania. Comprised of Mount Nittany Medical Center, Mount Nittany Physician Group, The Mount Nittany Health Foundation, and the Mount Nittany Health Children's Advocacy Center, the system serves six counties and offers more than thirty medical specialties, including Cardiology, Orthopedics, Oncology, Urology, and Neurology.

Related Articles This Week:

- DCNR Kicks [Off America250PA GeoCache Trail Through 25 PA State Parks](#) [PaEN]
- Gov. Shapiro, [America250PA Announce 5-City Commonwealth Free Concert Series Tour Celebrating Pennsylvania's Role Through 250 Years Of America](#)
- Gov. Shapiro, [DCNR Announce Grand Opening Of Laurel Caverns State Park In Fayette County, Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park](#) [PaEN]
- Lt. Gov. Davis, [DCNR Turn On Point State Park Fountain After \\$3.4 Million In Park Upgrades Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)
- DCNR Resource News: [Laurel Caverns State Park Opening; Volunteer Opportunities; Replace Invasive Plants, Much More!](#)
- DCNR Grants News: [McCahill Park Improves Recreation, Stormwater Management; Lumber Region Anniversary; Open Space A Catalyst For Community Impact Webinar](#)
- DCNR Linkedin: [Recognizing The Impact Of Conservation Volunteers On Pennsylvania's Public Lands](#) - By DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn [[PDF of Article](#)]
- Take Five [Fridays With Pam, PA Parks & Forests Foundation, Now Available](#)
- ClearWater Conservancy [Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes](#) [PaEN]
- Pennypack Ecological [Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County](#) [PaEN]
- Help Wanted: [PA Environmental Council Mapping/Program Coordinator](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: [Longtime Owners Of Laurel Caverns Trust DCNR To Take Care Of Natural Attraction As State Park](#)
- Observer-Reporter: [Laurel Caverns Becomes First Subterranean State Park In PA](#)
- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: [Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park Opens To Public](#)
- Post-Gazette Editorial: [Laurel Caverns Belongs To All Pennsylvanians](#)
- WESA: [Point State Park Water Fountain Flows After \\$3.4 Million Upgrade Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)
- WHYY: [Progress Report On Project To Build A Park Over I-95 At Penns Landing In Philadelphia](#)
- FCFreePressPA.com: [Buttonwood Nature Center Presents 35th Earth Day Celebration April](#)

[25 In Franklin County](#)

- DCNR [Forecast For April 11 Shows Higher Wildfire Danger Levels In Southern Half Of Pennsylvania](#)
 - PennLive: [Wildfire Season Is Here: Why Spring Is So Dangerous In PA And How You Can Help](#)
 - TribLive: [Forecasters Caution Of Wildfire Risk In Allegheny County](#)
 - TheDerrick.com: [Cranberry Twp. Joins Other Communities In Adopting Ordinance Allowing ATV, UTVs To Ride On Designated Public Roads](#)
 - ABC6: [Families Mourn 2 Fire Chiefs Killed Riding UTV On Public Road In Berks County By A DUI Driver](#)
 - Tribune-Democrat: [Birdwatching 'Nest' Planned For Lake Somerset](#)
 - PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
 - WHYY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#)
- [Posted: April 8, 2026]

Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County



The [Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust](#) 8th [Annual Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race](#) is on Saturday, April 18th at 9:00 a.m..

The whole family can celebrate Earth Day Weekend on a scenic, mixed terrain course, choosing to run 10K, or walk or run 5K or 1 mile.

This year, the course will feature the Coyote Loop, one of the Trust's main trails on their new wayfinding system, which coincides with other popular pathways.

Racers will get acquainted with the new signage while enjoying beautiful rolling hills, meadows and woods. Once again, the Southampton Library will convert the 1-mile course into a Tale Trail, housing a Story Stroll

featuring Bee Dance, by Rick Chrustowski, which will be fun for kids and adults alike.

This event is presented in partnership with our key sponsor, [L.D. Davis Industries, Inc.](#)

The race will be professionally timed by the [Bryn Mawr Racing Co.](#), and there will be refreshments and prizes at the finish line, including [Travelin' Tom's Coffee of Yardley](#) and [Weldon Coffee and Creamery's](#) ice cream bike!

This Trail Race will help protect the 956 acres of open space and habitat the Pennypack Trust now encompasses.

[Click Here to register and for more information.](#)

Since 1970, the [Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust](#) has been a steward to local natural areas and dedicated to educating and encouraging people to enjoy and protect the preserve's native ecosystems.

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- DCNR Resource News: [Laurel Caverns State Park Opening: Volunteer Opportunities: Replace Invasive Plants, Much More!](#)
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- DCNR LinkedIn: [Recognizing The Impact Of Conservation Volunteers On Pennsylvania's Public Lands](#) - By DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn [PDF of Article]
- Take Five [Fridays With Pam, PA Parks & Forests Foundation, Now Available](#)
- ClearWater Conservancy [Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes](#) [PaEN]
- Pennypack Ecological [Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County](#) [PaEN]
- Help Wanted: [PA Environmental Council Mapping/Program Coordinator](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: [Longtime Owners Of Laurel Caverns Trust DCNR To Take Care Of Natural Attraction As State Park](#)
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- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: [Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park Opens To Public](#)
- Post-Gazette Editorial: [Laurel Caverns Belongs To All Pennsylvanians](#)
- WESA: [Point State Park Water Fountain Flows After \\$3.4 Million Upgrade Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)
- WHYY: [Progress Report On Project To Build A Park Over I-95 At Penns Landing In Philadelphia](#)
- FCFreePressPA.com: [Buttonwood Nature Center Presents 35th Earth Day Celebration April 25 In Franklin County](#)
- DCNR [Forecast For April 11 Shows Higher Wildfire Danger Levels In Southern Half Of Pennsylvania](#)
- PennLive: [Wildfire Season Is Here: Why Spring Is So Dangerous In PA And How You Can Help](#)
- TribLive: [Forecasters Caution Of Wildfire Risk In Allegheny County](#)
- TheDerrick.com: [Cranberry Twp. Joins Other Communities In Adopting Ordinance Allowing ATV, UTVs To Ride On Designated Public Roads](#)
- ABC6: [Families Mourn 2 Fire Chiefs Killed Riding UTV On Public Road In Berks County By A DUI Driver](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Birdwatching 'Nest' Planned For Lake Somerset](#)
- PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
- WHYY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#)

[Posted: April 7, 2026]

Help Wanted: PA Environmental Council Mapping/Program Coordinator

The [PA Environmental Council](#) is seeking qualified candidates for a full-time [Mapping/Program Coordinator position](#) based in the Pittsburgh or State College offices of PEC.

This role serves as PEC's primary GIS and mapping resource, supporting programs across the organization through data management, analysis, and the creation of both digital and print maps and tools.

The position also helps support broader Trails and Recreation program needs, including public engagement, and works closely with other PEC staff and external partners.

[Click Here for a full job description](#) and instructions on how to apply. The deadline is May 3.

For more information on programs, initiatives and special events, visit the [PA Environmental Council](#) website, visit the [PEC Blog](#), [PEC Bill/Regulation Tracker](#), follow [PEC on Twitter](#) or [Like PEC on Facebook](#). Visit PEC's [Audio Room](#) for the latest podcasts. [Click Here](#) to receive regular updates from PEC.

Related Articles This Week:

- DCNR Kicks [Off America250PA GeoCache Trail Through 25 PA State Parks](#) [PaEN]
- Gov. Shapiro, [America250PA Announce 5-City Commonwealth Free Concert Series Tour Celebrating Pennsylvania's Role Through 250 Years Of America](#)
- Gov. Shapiro, [DCNR Announce Grand Opening Of Laurel Caverns State Park In Fayette County, Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park](#) [PaEN]
- Lt. Gov. Davis, [DCNR Turn On Point State Park Fountain After \\$3.4 Million In Park Upgrades Ahead Of NFL Draft In Pittsburgh](#)
- DCNR Resource News: [Laurel Caverns State Park Opening; Volunteer Opportunities; Replace Invasive Plants, Much More!](#)
- DCNR Grants News: [McCahill Park Improves Recreation, Stormwater Management; Lumber Region Anniversary; Open Space A Catalyst For Community Impact Webinar](#)
- DCNR Linkedin: [Recognizing The Impact Of Conservation Volunteers On Pennsylvania's Public Lands](#) - By DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn [[PDF of Article](#)]
- Take Five [Fridays With Pam, PA Parks & Forests Foundation, Now Available](#)
- ClearWater Conservancy [Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes](#) [PaEN]
- Pennypack Ecological [Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County](#) [PaEN]
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 - FCFreePressPA.com: [Buttonwood Nature Center Presents 35th Earth Day Celebration April 25 In Franklin County](#)
 - DCNR [Forecast For April 11 Shows Higher Wildfire Danger Levels In Southern Half Of Pennsylvania](#)
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 - Tribune-Democrat: [Birdwatching 'Nest' Planned For Lake Somerset](#)
 - PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
 - WHYY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#)
- [Posted: April 6, 2026]

Environment & Energy Educational Opportunities For Students & Adults

Opportunities to learn more about environmental and energy issues affecting Pennsylvania for students and adults--

Awards/Recognition

- WGAL8: [9th Generation Brothers Preserve Pennsylvania's Oldest Farm After 309 Years In Lancaster County](#)
- PA Assn. [Of Environmental Educators Announce Recipients Of 2026 PAEE Awards, Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience Awards](#) [PaEN]
- The Allegheny Front: [Profile: Carol Parenzan, From Environmental Engineer To 'Water Healer'](#)
- Ayana Elizabeth Johnson [To Receive Dickinson College's Rose-Walters Prize for Environmental Activism](#) [PaEN]
- WeConservePA: [Lebanon County Conservation District Recognizes Calvin Miller With Steward Of The Land Lifetime Award](#) [PaEN]

Grants

- Volunteers, Fish & Boat [Commission, DEP Stock Trout In Conowingo Creek, Lancaster County Restored With Help Of State, Federal Funding: New Grant Round Opens April 22](#) [PaEN]
- Local Governments: [Apply To DEP's Community Energy Development Program By April 15 For Help In Developing Energy Transition Plans](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR Grants News: [McCahill Park Improves Recreation, Stormwater Management; Lumber Region Anniversary; Open Space A Catalyst For Community Impact Webinar](#)

Help Wanted

-- DCNR LinkedIn: [Recognizing The Impact Of Conservation Volunteers On Pennsylvania's Public Lands](#) - By DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- Help Wanted: [PA Environmental Council Mapping/Program Coordinator](#) [PaEN]

Upcoming Events

-- PA Resources Council: [Celebrate Earth Day By Attending PRC's April Events On Backyard Composting, Native Plants, Recycling And Waste Reduction, Much More](#)

-- ClearWater Conservancy [Kicks Off 10th Season Of Centred Outdoors - Free Guided Outings, Wellness Programs, Adventure Hikes](#) [PaEN]

-- PennLive: [From Cuddling Goats To Exploring Caves, Earth Day Events Bloom Across Central PA](#)

-- Warren Times: [Allegheny National Forest To Host April 18 Invasive Plant Removal Earth Day Event](#)

-- DCNR Kicks [Off America250PA GeoCache Trail Through 25 PA State Parks](#) [PaEN]

-- Gov. Shapiro, [America250PA Announce 5-City Commonwealth Free Concert Series Tour Celebrating Pennsylvania's Role Through 250 Years Of America](#)

-- DEP Falcon Cam: [The Hatch Watch Is On! Rachel Carson Building Peregrine Falcons Have A Clutch Of 5 Eggs That May Start Hatching April 29](#) [Watch Live]

-- WHYY: [Scarlet Tanagers Proposed As PA's Official Migratory Bird: 'The Jewels Of The Forest'](#)

-- PennFuture, [Partners Host April 10 Webinar On PUC A.I. Data Centers Large Load Model Tariff](#) [PaEN]

-- House Energy Committee [To Meet April 13 To Consider GeoThermal Energy, Advanced Transmission Line Technology, PA Energy Development Authority Bills; Sets April 14 Hearing On Net Metering](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Hosts April 15 [Webinar On How To Do Trenchless Pipeline Construction Safely After Major Incidents In 2025 Causing The Release Of 1.2 Million Gallons Of Drilling Fluids Into Abandoned Mine Voids In Washington County](#). 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

-- PA Solar Center, [Partners Host April 17 Webinar On How Energy Storage, Solar Energy Create Resilient Communities Featuring DEP's Report On Microgrids, Energy Storage](#) [PaEN]

-- Wildlands Conservation April 17 [Eco-Tour Of The Maple Tract Preserve Prescribed Burn Tract](#) In Monroe County

-- DEP State Water Plan [Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants](#) [PaEN]

-- Pennypack Ecological [Restoration Trust Earth Day Trail Run/Walk Race Set For April 18 In Montgomery County](#) [PaEN]

-- Penn State Extension, [Tri-County Conewago Creek Assn. Hold April 25 Volunteer Riparian Buffer Planting](#) In Elizabethtown, Lancaster County. 1:00 p.m.

-- Independence Conservancy [To Hold 3 Waste Tire Collection Events In Allegheny, Beaver Counties Starting April 25](#) [PaEN]

-- TribLive: [Free Earth Day Celebration Set At Bradford Woods Reserve April 25, Allegheny County](#)

-- FCFreePressPA.com: [Buttonwood Nature Center Presents 35th Earth Day Celebration April 25 In Franklin County](#)

Public Participation

- LOTS GOING ON! PA Oil & Gas [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - April 11](#) [PaEN]
- READ CAREFULLY! DEP Posted [64 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In April 11 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]
- PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]
- Scranton Times: [PPL Open House Now April 21 On Proposed Power Line/Substation Projects To Serve Proposed A.I. Data Center Projects In Archbald Boro](#)
- DEP To Hold [May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge](#) [PaEN]
- DEP To Hold [May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County](#) [PaEN]
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Invites [Comments On CNX Midstream Project To Prevent Damage To 4 Natural Gas Gathering Pipelines From Longwall Coal Mining In Greene County](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive - Joe Napsha: [CNX Midstream Seeks To Tap Beaver Run Drinking Water Reservoir For Fracking Water In Westmoreland County](#)
- DEP: A.I. Data Center [Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County](#) [PaEN]
- Scranton Times: [Municipalities To Hold 5 A.I. Data Center Meetings, Hearings This Month: Archbald Boro, Olyphant Boro, Fell, Greenfield And Scott Townships](#)
- DEP Invites [Comments On Air Quality Plan Approval To Reactivate Engines, Oil-Fired Boilers, Cooling Towers At Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant In Dauphin County](#) [PaEN]
- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)
- PUC Sets July 7 [Hearings On Greater Hazleton CAN DO Request To Supply 350,000 Gallons Of Recycled Water/Day To A Proposed A.I. Data Center Campus In The Humboldt Industrial Park, Luzerne County](#) [PaEN]
 - The Shenandoah Sentinel: [Hearings Set As PUC Considers Request To Provide Water Service To Hazleton Area A.I. Data Centers](#)

Programs/Information

- PA Recycling Markets Center Study: [Recycling Industries Support Over 319,000 Jobs; Contributes \\$130.5 Billion To The Economy - Over 3 Times That Of The Shale Gas Industry](#) [PaEN]
- PA Bar Association Quarterly: [Examining The Evolution Of The PA Environmental Rights Amendment Through A Municipal Lens](#)
- DEP: Hazardous Sites [Cleanup Act Brings Clean Drinking Water To Community In Lancaster County Contaminated By Trichloroethylene \(TCE\); Future Cleanup Funding In Doubt](#) [PaEN]
- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Businesses, Individuals Who Paid The President's Illegal Tariffs May Be Able To Start Applying For \\$166 Billion In Refunds By April 20](#)

- DEP: Recent [Precipitation Leads To Improved Drought Conditions, But Additional Recovery Is Needed](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Invites [Submission Of Water Quality Data For Evaluation Of 34 Wild Trout Stream Designations In 19 Counties](#) [PaEN]
- Stroud Water Research Center: [New Clean Water Partnership With University Of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School At New Bolton Center; Bringing Back Eastern Brook Trout; LaMotte Company Honored](#) [PaEN]
- Chesapeake Bay Journal: [Research Shows Chesapeake Bay Watershed Streams Are Getting Saltier](#)
- Gov. Shapiro, [DCNR Announce Grand Opening Of Laurel Caverns State Park In Fayette County, Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR Resource News: [Laurel Caverns State Park Opening; Volunteer Opportunities; Replace Invasive Plants, Much More!](#)
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- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: [Pennsylvania's First Underground State Park Opens To Public](#)
- Post-Gazette Editorial: [Laurel Caverns Belongs To All Pennsylvanians](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Cambria Recreation Authority To Celebrate Completion Of Ghost Town Trail Loop](#)
- Pennsylvania Invests [More Than \\$10.2 Million To Ensure 31 Farms, 2,645 Acres Of Prime Farmland In 20 Counties Stay Farms Forever](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR [Forecast For April 11 Shows Higher Wildfire Danger Levels In Southern Half Of Pennsylvania](#)
- PennLive: [Wildfire Season Is Here: Why Spring Is So Dangerous In PA And How You Can Help](#)
- TribLive: [Forecasters Caution Of Wildfire Risk In Allegheny County](#)
- The Allegheny Front: [Is The Rare PA Hawthorn Tree Ready For Its Moment In The Sun?](#)
- Wildlands Conservancy [Brings Prescribed Fire Back To Maple Tract Preserve In Monroe County](#)
- PennWATCH: [Pennsylvania Braces For 'High-Risk' Tick Season As Spring Temperatures Rise](#)
- WESA: [Ticks, Lyme Disease Are The Backyard Threat SW PA Homeowners Keep Ignoring](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Birdwatching 'Nest' Planned For Lake Somerset](#)
- Morning Call Guest Essay: [Easter, Spring Weather Bring Thoughts Of Renewal And Gardening](#) - By George Ball, Chairman, PA-based [W. Atlee Burpee Company](#)
- A.I./Data Centers**
- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - April 13](#) [PaEN]
- House Energy Committee [To Meet April 13 To Consider GeoThermal Energy, Advanced Transmission Line Technology, PA Energy Development Authority Bills; Sets April 14 Hearing On Net Metering](#) [PaEN]
- WHYY - Sophia Schmidt: [PA A.I. Data Centers: How State Lawmakers Are Responding, From Electricity And Water Use To Proposing More Tax Breaks](#)
- Williamsport Sun: [Panelists Compare Coming A.I. Data Centers To What Shale Gas Did To The Region; 'This Isn't Something That You Stop' Said PPL President 'It's Something You Are Responsible With'](#) [PDF of Article]

- The Center Square: [Non-Disclosure Agreements With Local Officials On A.I. Data Centers Spur Talk Of ‘Secret Deals’](#)
 - Utility Dive: [Pennsylvania DEP Seeks Potential Fast-Track Energy Storage, Generation Projects In Response To PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#)
 - Tribune-Democrat: [DEP Seeks Proposals For Expedited Energy Projects To Buttress PJM Power Grid](#)
 - Bloomberg: [PJM Interconnection Announces Emergency Proposal Seeking 15 Gigawatts Of New Power Supplies To Address Potential Shortages Caused By A.I. Data Center Demand](#) [PaEN]
 - Utility Dive: [Supply Crunch For Natural Gas Power Plant Turbines Set To Raise Prices 195% By 2027; 5 Year Wait For Large Turbines, Report](#)
 - The Citizens’ Voice: [Hunlock Creek 146-MW Natural Gas Power Plant Expresses Interest In Building A.I. Data Center In Hunlock Twp., Luzerne County](#)
 - DEP To Hold [May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP Invites [Comments On Air Quality Plan Approval To Reactivate Engines, Oil-Fired Boilers, Cooling Towers At Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant In Dauphin County](#) [PaEN]
 - PUC Sets July 7 [Hearings On Greater Hazleton CAN DO Request To Supply 350,000 Gallons Of Recycled Water/Day To A Proposed A.I. Data Center Campus In The Humboldt Industrial Park, Luzerne County](#) [PaEN]
 - PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]
 - TribLive: [Duquesne Light Asks FERC To Lower PJM Price Cap From \\$325/MW/Day To The Current Floor Of \\$175/MW/Day To Save Customers \\$10/Month](#)
 - WHYY: [Gov. Shapiro Calls PECO ‘s Proposed 12.5% Electric, 11.4% Natural Gas Increase ‘Pure Greed’](#)
 - PUC Raises Cost, [Other Concerns With Proposed 222 Mile Kammer Juniata Electric Transmission Line Project Going Through 10 PA Counties](#) [To Help Feed A.I. Data Center Demands In Eastern PA] [PaEN]
 - AP: [Largest Monthly Jump In Gasoline Prices In 60 Years Lead To Biggest US Monthly Inflation Spike In 4 Years- 3.3%](#)
 - The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President’s War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)
 - Reuters: [US EIA: Record Electricity Use As A.I. Data Centers Surge; Increase In Renewables, Drop In Natural Gas, Coal Generation; Increasing Price Of Natural Gas](#)
 - US EIA [Short-Term Energy Outlook As Of April 7](#)
 - [PA Data Center Hearings & Meetings](#) - Physicians For Social Responsibility PA
- Background On Issues**
- DEP/Environmental Quality Board [Withdraws Proposed Regulation Changing Notification Requirements For Spills, Releases Saying Technical Guidance Is More Appropriate](#) [PaEN]
 - DEP: Wastewater [Spill At Repsol Oil & Gas USA Shale Gas Well Pad In Bradford County Results In Recovery Of 166,729 Gallons Of Contaminated Water, So Far](#) [PaEN]
 - Chesapeake Bay Journal: [DEP Fines Eureka Resources \\$100,000 For Oil & Gas Wastewater](#)

Spills, Other Violations In Bradford, Lycoming County

- Observer-Reporter: [Equitrans \[EQT\] Appeals Court Ruling Denying Request To Dismiss State Criminal Charges Involving A 2018 Greene County Methane House Explosion Causing Serious Burns To 3 People, Including a 4-Year Old](#) [PDF of Article]
- PennLive Guest Essay: [PA Is One Of The World's Top Energy Producers, So Why Can't It Build Pipelines?](#) - By T.J. Rooney, Lobbyist, Tri State Strategies [DEP Permits Not The Problem; Pipelines Fined Over [\\$71 Million + Multiple Criminal Charges](#)]
- EPA Moves [To Weaken Rule To Reduce Methane Emissions From Oil & Gas Operations](#) [PaEN]
- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN]
- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President's Proposed Budget Cuts](#)
- Inquirer: [Energy Prices Are Up, These Smart Moves Can Help Your Business Save Money](#)
- Inside Climate News: [US Department Of Agriculture Lost 21% Of Its Workforce In 2025](#)
- Williamsport Sun: [US Forest Service To Shutdown Williamsport Office Involved In Research On Forest Health, Sustainable Management](#)
- Inside Climate News: [President's Budget Proposes Massive Cuts For Environmental Programs](#) [Again]
- Utility Dive: [US Dept. Of Energy Slashing Non-Defense Spending On Energy By Cutting 'Green New Scam Initiatives'](#)
- Post-Gazette/AP: [President's EPA Proposes Gutting Rules Targeting Coal Plant Ash Pollution That Threatens Groundwater](#)
- NRDC: [EPA Proposes To Weaken Safeguards Against Coal Ash Pollution In Groundwater](#)
- EPA [Proposes More Changes To Disposal Of Coal Combustion Residuals And Beneficial Use Requirements](#)
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]
- DCED Awards [\\$125,625 Grant To Bucks County Redevelopment Authority To Make A Site Safe For New Residential Development In Sellersville Borough](#) [PaEN]
- City Of Pittsburgh [To Develop Solar Energy Facility On Steel Slag Disposal Area In Swisshelm Park To Cut Energy Costs By \\$2.6 Million At 4 Public Schools](#) [PaEN]
- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Pittsburgh Brownfields To Become Solar Energy Facility Powering 4 Schools](#)
- TribLive: [Solar Energy Facility Planned In Swisshelm Park Would Power 4 Pittsburgh Public Schools](#)
- TheDerrick.com: [Oil City Hears From Solar Energy Company On Proposed Installation Near High School In Venango County](#)
- Altoona Mirror: [Logan Township Approves Solar Energy Facility Off Old Sixth Avenue Road](#)
- Reuters: [US EIA: Record Electricity Use As A.I. Data Centers Surge; Increase In Renewables, Drop In Natural Gas, Coal Generation; Increasing Price Of Natural Gas](#)
- US EIA [Short-Term Energy Outlook As Of April 7](#)
- Post-Gazette: [Sustainable Sip-Off Brings Together Regional Breweries For A Competition During Pittsburgh NFL Draft Week](#)
- Courier Express: [Toby Creek Watershed Assn. Highlights Abandoned Mine Drainage](#)

[Treatment Efforts In Jefferson County](#)

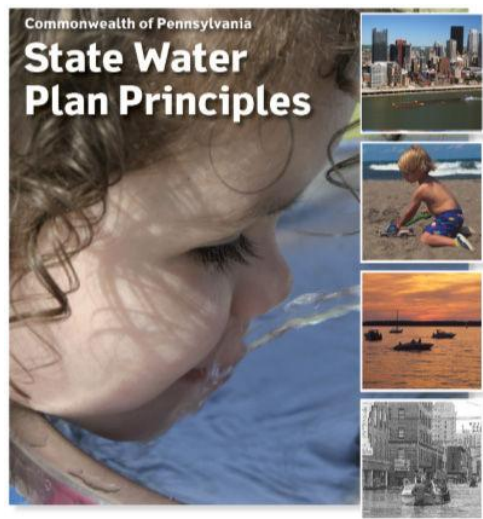
- FOX43: [Chesapeake Bay Foundation Gives Students Hands-On Education On The Conodoguinet Creek](#)
- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [Rain Garden Construction Underway At Luzerne County's Operations Building In Wyoming](#)
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission Releases 2025 Annual Report Highlighting Data Center, Natural Gas Water Use, Climate Change, Road Salt Study, More [PaEN]
- TribLive: [Volunteers Replace 10 Invasive Trees With Native Ones Along Freeport Road In Blawnox, Allegheny County](#)
- TribLive: [Small Space, Big Environmental Impact: Aspinwall Resident To Plant Public Pollinator Garden In Allegheny County](#)

Visit the [DEP Calendar of Events](#); [PA Parks & Forests Foundation's Events](#) webpage and [DCNR's Calendar of Events](#) for activities happening near you.

Visit DEP's [Teaching Green](#) webpage to learn about more environmental education resources.

Visit the PA Environment Digest [Calendar Of Events](#) for more opportunities.
[Posted: April 12, 2026]

DEP State Water Plan Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants



DEP's [State Water Plan Program](#) is hosting a [series of webinars](#) to help educate the public, water resource professionals and decision-makers at all levels on issues affecting Pennsylvania's Water Resources.

Here's a schedule of upcoming webinars--

-- **April 15:** [Susquehanna River Basin Commission Dry Cooling Rule For Data Centers, Power Plants](#). An update on [SRBC's Dry Cooling Resolution](#), including its purpose, technical basis, and implications for water use for power generation and data centers. 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

-- **April 21:** [Developing A Local Climate Action Plan](#). An introduction to the [Local Climate Action Program](#) and the process communities use to build climate action plans tailored to local needs. 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

-- **April 23:** [Public Utility Commission](#)

[Water/Wastewater Programs 101](#). An overview of the PUC's purpose, mission, history, and organizational structure with an emphasis on its regulation of [water, wastewater, and stormwater](#) utilities and the intersections with statewide water planning. 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

-- **April 28:** [Coastal Zone Grants](#). A walkthrough of Pennsylvania's [Coastal Zone Management Grants](#), including funding priorities, eligibility, and the application process. 10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

[Click Here for more information and to register.](#)

Visit DEP's [State Water Plan](#) webpage for more information on this program.

For more information on environmental programs in Pennsylvania, visit [DEP's website](#). [Submit Environmental Complaints](#); [Click Here](#) to sign up for DEP's newsletter; sign up for [DEP's eNotice](#); [Like DEP on Facebook](#), [Follow DEP on Twitter](#) and visit [DEP's YouTube Channel](#).

Related Articles This Week:

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- Volunteers, Fish & Boat [Commission, DEP Stock Trout In Conowingo Creek, Lancaster County Restored With Help Of State, Federal Funding; New Grant Round Opens April 22](#) [PaEN]
- DEP/Environmental Quality Board [Withdraws Proposed Regulation Changing Notification Requirements For Spills, Releases Saying Technical Guidance Is More Appropriate](#) [PaEN]
- DEP: Recent [Precipitation Leads To Improved Drought Conditions, But Additional Recovery Is Needed](#) [PaEN]
- Chesapeake Bay Foundation [Joins Lawsuit Over Federal Repeal Of Greenhouse Gas Endangerment Finding](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Invites [Submission Of Water Quality Data For Evaluation Of 34 Wild Trout Stream Designations In 19 Counties](#) [PaEN]
- DEP State Water Plan [Program Hosting 4 Upcoming Webinars On Dry Cooling; Developing Local Climate Action Plans; Overview Of The PUC Water Programs; Coastal Zone Grants](#) [PaEN]
- Stroud Water Research Center: [New Clean Water Partnership With University Of Pennsylvania's Veterinary School At New Bolton Center; Bringing Back Eastern Brook Trout; LaMotte Company Honored](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension, [Tri-County Conewago Creek Assn. Hold April 25 Volunteer Riparian Buffer Planting](#) In Elizabethtown, Lancaster County. 1:00 p.m.
- Susquehanna River [Basin Commission Releases 2025 Annual Report Highlighting Data Center, Natural Gas Water Use, Climate Change, Road Salt Study, More](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- PA Capital-Star: [President's ICE Has Appealed DEP Orders Requiring Sewage, Drinking Water Plans For Proposed Warehouse Detention Centers In Berks, Schuylkill County](#)
- The Allegheny Front: [Profile: Carol Parenzan, From Environmental Engineer To 'Water Healer'](#)
- FOX43: [Chesapeake Bay Foundation Gives Students Hands-On Education On The Conodoguinet Creek](#)
- Courier Express: [Toby Creek Watershed Assn. Highlights Abandoned Mine Drainage Treatment Efforts In Jefferson County](#)
- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [Rain Garden Construction Underway At Luzerne County's Operations Building In Wyoming](#)
- Scranton Times: [Scranton Plans 2 More Stormwater Projects In Flood-Prone Keyser Valley Using COVID Recovery Funds](#)
- [TheDerrick.com](#): [Knox Agrees To Settlement With DEP Over Wastewater Plant Violations](#)
- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)

[Posted: April 7, 2026]

News From PA House & Senate

The information you need to follow legislation in the House and Senate- starting with articles and NewsClips from last week--

Top 10 Stories On Harrisburg/PA Politics Last Week--

Because In Politics Everything Is Connected To Everything Else--

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

Bill Calendars

House (April 13): [House Resolution 327](#) (Green-D-Philadelphia) would direct the Joint State Government Commission to study the feasibility of requiring food waste recycling for businesses based on the Commonwealth's current infrastructure. <> [Click Here](#) for full House Bill Calendar.

Senate (April 20): <> [Click Here](#) for full Senate Bill Calendar.

Committee Meetings

House

April 13-- [House Energy Committee](#) meets to consider [House Bill 2076](#) (Venkat-D- Allegheny, Williams-R-Chester), bipartisan legislation that would establish a regulatory framework for the generation of geothermal resources in the state. [[draft amendment](#)]; [House Bill 2223](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) requiring electric utilities to evaluate the use of advanced transmission technologies when they file transmission line siting applications [[draft amendment](#)]; [House Bill 2347](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) would update the duties of the [PA Energy Development Authority](#) and board membership. Room 205 Ryan Building. 10:30 a.m. [Click Here to watch online.](#) [Read more here on the agenda.](#)

April 14-- [House Energy Committee](#) holds a hearing on [House Bill 2348](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) updating the state's net metering policy related to renewable and other distributed energy resources. Room 60 East Wing of the Main Capital. 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. [Click Here to watch online.](#)

April 21-- [House Environmental and Natural Resource Protection Committee](#) hearing on methane emissions from the oil and gas industry. Room G-50 Irvis Building. 10:00 a.m. [Click Here to watch online.](#)

<> [Click Here](#) for full House Committee Schedule.

Senate

<> [Click Here](#) for full Senate Committee Schedule.

Bills Pending In Key Committees

Check the [PA Environmental Council Bill Tracker](#) for the status and updates on pending state legislation and regulations that affect environmental and conservation efforts in Pennsylvania.

Session Schedule

Here is the latest voting session schedule for the Senate and House--

House Voting Schedule

April 13, 14, 15, 27, 28, 29

May 4, 5, 6

June 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

September 28, 29, 30

October 5, 6, 7, 19, 20, 21

November 9, 10

Senate Voting Schedule

April 20, 21, 22

May 4, 5, 6

June 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30

[Posted: April 12, 2026]

The Feds - New Administration

Articles and NewsClips about federal actions impacting Pennsylvania--

New Federal Administration

-- AP: [President Promised To Cut Electric Bills In Half, Bills In Energy-Rich West Virginia Now Top Mortgages](#)

-- AP: [Largest Monthly Jump In Gasoline Prices In 60 Years Lead To Biggest US Monthly Inflation Spike In 4 Years- 3.3%](#)

-- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President's War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)

-- PA Capital-Star: [President's ICE Has Appealed DEP Orders Requiring Sewage, Drinking Water Plans For Proposed Warehouse Detention Centers In Berks, Schuylkill County](#)

-- WHYY: [President's National Park Service Reveals Plans To Replace Slavery Exhibit At President's House Site In Philadelphia](#)

President's War On Iran

-- **April 12:** [PA Average AAA Gasoline Price Drops 1 Cent From Yesterday, Now \\$1.04/Gallon Higher To \\$4.15 Since Feb. 27](#) [Crawford County, PA highest at \$4.389]

-- **April 6:** Neighborhood Sheetz Gasoline Price Jumped 20 Cents More/Gallon In One Day to \$4.39

- **April 12:** [Average AAA Gasoline Prices: National- \\$4.12 Ohio- \\$3.86 PA- \\$4.15](#)
- Feb. 27: Average AAA Gasoline Prices: National- \$2.98 Ohio- \$2.79 PA- \$3.11
- Warren Times: [Warren County Still Has Highest Gasoline Prices In The State](#) [Home of conventional oil industry]
- PA Capital-Star: [Diesel Prices Continue To Climb, Hitting PA Wallets, Businesses](#)
- York Daily Record: [As Fuel Costs Rise, So Does Uncertainty In Minds Of Manufacturers](#)
- AP: [Largest Monthly Jump In Gasoline Prices In 60 Years Lead To Biggest US Monthly Inflation Spike In 4 Years- 3.3%](#)
- TribLive/AP: [President's War On Iran Sends Inflation Soaring, Mood Of American Consumers Plunging](#)
- The Guardian: [Oil And Natural Gas Crisis From US President's War On Iran Worse Than 1973, 1979 And 2022 Together, Says IEA](#)
- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN]
- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President's Proposed Budget Cuts](#)
- LancasterOnline: [Lancaster Republicans See Statewide Temporary Tax Cuts As Key To Making Life More Affordable](#) [Rather Than Changing The Federal Policies That Are Jacking Up Prices Of Everything]
- EPA, FBI, [Other Federal Agencies Issue Cybersecurity Advisory To Water Systems As A Result Of The President's War On Iran](#)
- **Windfall War Profits Tax:** A tax on the oil & gas industry when sudden, external events like wars drive energy prices and profits to unusually high levels. It targets 'excess' gains not earned through increased productivity to redistribute profits to ease consumer energy costs. [Read more here.](#)
- Wall Street Journal: [US Natural Gas Exporter Venture Global Pulls In Billions During Iran War Energy Shocks](#)
- Reuters: [World Is Lining Up For Russian Oil, Natural Gas As A Result Iran War Energy Crisis](#)
- AP: [President Warns A 'Whole Civilization Will Die Tonight' If 8:00 p.m. Iran Deadline Not Met](#)
- Inquirer: [PA Member Of Congress And Air Force Veteran Chrissy Houlahan Says President's Threat To Eliminate Iran Is 'The Epitome Of An Illegal Order'](#)

Federal Cuts, Staff Reductions

- PA Extends [Low-Income Energy Assistance Program Application Period To May 8; President Calls For Eliminating The Program Next Year](#) [PaEN]
- PennLive: [Pennsylvanians Could Lose Millions Used To Help People Pay Heating Bills Under President's Proposed Budget Cuts](#)
- Inside Climate News: [US Department Of Agriculture Lost 21% Of Its Workforce In 2025](#)
- Williamsport Sun: [US Forest Service To Shutdown Williamsport Office Involved In Research On Forest Health, Sustainable Management](#)
- Inside Climate News: [President's Budget Proposes Massive Cuts For Environmental Programs \[Again\]](#)
- Utility Dive: [US Dept. Of Energy Slashing Non-Defense Spending On Energy By Cutting 'Green New Scam Initiatives'](#)

Deregulation For Industry

- PennLive Guest Essay: [PA Is One Of The World's Top Energy Producers, So Why Can't It Build Pipelines?](#) - By T.J. Rooney, Lobbyist, Tri State Strategies [DEP Permits Not The Problem; Pipelines Fined Over [\\$71 Million + Multiple Criminal Charges](#)]
- Post-Gazette/AP: [President's EPA Proposes Gutting Rules Targeting Coal Plant Ash Pollution That Threatens Groundwater](#)
- NRDC: [EPA Proposes To Weaken Safeguards Against Coal Ash Pollution In Groundwater](#)
- EPA [Proposes More Changes To Disposal Of Coal Combustion Residuals And Beneficial Use Requirements](#)

President's Tariffs

- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Businesses, Individuals Who Paid The President's Illegal Tariffs May Be Able To Start Applying For \\$166 Billion In Refunds By April 20](#)

[Posted: April 12, 2026]

Public Participation Opportunities/Calendar Of Events

[Click Here for a list of public participation opportunities and a calendar of events.](#)

- LOTS GOING ON! PA Oil & Gas [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - April 11](#) [PaEN]
- READ CAREFULLY! DEP Posted [64 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In April 11 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]
- PUC Publishes [Proposed Rule Regulating Electric Distributed Energy, Aggregation Resources, Virtual Power Plant Participation In Wholesale Energy Markets](#) [PaEN]
- Scranton Times: [PPL Open House Now April 21 On Proposed Power Line/Substation Projects To Serve Proposed A.I. Data Center Projects In Archbald Boro](#)
- DEP To Hold [May 11 Hearing On North Centre Twp. PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Hazardous Site Response In 12 Municipalities In Columbia County Involving Contaminated Sewage Sludge](#) [PaEN]
- DEP To Hold [May 12 Hearing On Individual Stormwater Permit For The 5.8 Mile HCPP 30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline Serving The 4.5 GW Homer City A.I. Data Center Power Plant In Indiana County](#) [PaEN]
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Seeks Comments On Environmental Impacts Of Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline Project Impacting Susquehanna County, PA; New York And Delaware](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Invites [Comments On CNX Midstream Project To Prevent Damage To 4 Natural Gas Gathering Pipelines From Longwall Coal Mining In Greene County](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive - Joe Napsha: [CNX Midstream Seeks To Tap Beaver Run Drinking Water Reservoir For Fracking Water In Westmoreland County](#)
- DEP: A.I. Data Center [Developer Edged Energy Submits Notice Of Intent To Remediate Site](#)

[In South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh County](#) [PaEN]

-- Scranton Times: [Municipalities To Hold 5 A.I. Data Center Meetings, Hearings This Month: Archbald Boro, Olyphant Boro, Fell, Greenfield And Scott Townships](#)

-- DEP Invites [Comments On Air Quality Plan Approval To Reactivate Engines, Oil-Fired Boilers, Cooling Towers At Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant In Dauphin County](#) [PaEN]

-- York Daily Record: [Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Wants To Draw More Water From Susquehanna River For Its Restart](#)

-- PUC Sets July 7 [Hearings On Greater Hazleton CAN DO Request To Supply 350,000 Gallons Of Recycled Water/Day To A Proposed A.I. Data Center Campus In The Humboldt Industrial Park, Luzerne County](#) [PaEN]

-- The Shenandoah Sentinel: [Hearings Set As PUC Considers Request To Provide Water Service To Hazleton Area A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- [PA Data Center Hearings & Meetings](#) - Physicians For Social Responsibility PA

[Posted: April 12, 2026]

Grants & Awards

[Click Here for grants, awards, recognition programs and contest deadlines.](#)

-- Volunteers, Fish & Boat [Commission, DEP Stock Trout In Conowingo Creek, Lancaster County Restored With Help Of State, Federal Funding; New Grant Round Opens April 22](#) [PaEN]

-- Local Governments: [Apply To DEP's Community Energy Development Program By April 15 For Help In Developing Energy Transition Plans](#) [PaEN]

-- DCNR Grants News: [McCahill Park Improves Recreation, Stormwater Management; Lumber Region Anniversary; Open Space A Catalyst For Community Impact Webinar](#)

[Posted: April 12, 2026]

PA Bulletin Public Notices - April 11

Highlights of the environmental and energy notices in the [April 11 PA Bulletin](#)--

-- PA Oil & Gas [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - April 11](#) [PaEN]

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing a May 11 hearing on the response to the [North Centre Township PFAS 'forever chemicals' site](#) in Columbia County under the state Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act involving contaminated sewage sludge. ([PA Bulletin, page 2068](#))

The investigation area for the PFAS contamination has been expanded to include 12

municipalities-- the Town of Bloomsburg, Beaver, Briar Creek, Catawissa, Fishing Creek, Locust, Main, Mount Pleasant, North Centre, Orange, Scott and South Centre townships in Columbia County. [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing a May 12 hearing on the Individual NPDES Stormwater Permit for the 5.8 mile HCPP **30-Inch Natural Gas Pipeline** serving the 4.5 GW **Homer City A.I. Data Center Campus Power Plant** in **Burrell, Blacklick and Center Townships, Indiana County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2067](#)) [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin inviting comments on an Air Quality Plan Approval covering the reactivation of internal combustion engines, oil-fired boilers and cooling towers for the restart of the **Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant** (Crane Clean Energy Center) in **Londonderry Twp., Dauphin County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2033](#)) [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing it has received an Act 2 Land Recycling Program Notice of Intent from **Edged Energy**, an A.I. Data Center developer, to remediate a property in **South Whitehall Township, Lehigh County.** ([PA Bulletin, page 2030](#)) [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the [April 11 PA Bulletin](#) inviting the submission of water quality and other technical data for the evaluation of the water quality classification of 34 Class A Wild Trout and Wild Trout streams in 19 counties. The streams are located in Bedford, Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Crawford, Franklin, Indiana, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Luzerne, Mifflin, Montgomery, Montour, Northumberland, Somerset, Tioga, Venango, Westmoreland counties. Technical data must be submitted by May 11. [Read more here.](#)

-- **DEP published** notice in the [April 11 PA Bulletin](#) inviting comments on a draft changes to the [Noncoal Civil Penalty Assessments](#) guidance document [562-4180-101]. Comments due May 11.

-- **DEP published** notice in the [March 21 PA Bulletin](#) inviting comments on draft [Guidance for the Application of Regional Air Quality Civil Penalty Assessments](#). Comments due April 20.

-- **DEP published** notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin announcing the approval of the Elk County Municipal Waste Plan revision. ([PA Bulletin, page 2069](#))

-- **The Public Utility Commission** published [notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin](#) inviting comments on a proposed rule regulating electric distributed energy, aggregation resources and virtual Power plant participation in wholesale energy markets. Comments due June 10. [Read more here.](#)

Solicitations

-- **DEP published** an Act 181 notice in the April 11 PA Bulletin inviting interest in the operation and maintenance of a mine drainage treatment facility on a forfeited coal mining site in **Somerset County.** Response due by April 27. ([PA Bulletin, page 2067](#))

-- **McKean County** is soliciting proposals for municipal waste disposal capacity as part of updating its County Municipal Waste Management Plan. Responses due May 8. ([PA Bulletin, page 2068](#))

Permits

-- **Constellation Energy Generation LLC - Muddy Run Pumped Storage Facility:** DEP invites comments on renewal of a NPDES Wastewater Permit for the facility in **Drumore Twp, Lancaster County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2019](#))

-- **Duquesne Light - Elrama Coal Ash Disposal Facility Leachate:** DEP invites comments on a Waste Permit related to installing pipelines to carry leachate from the Disposal Facility to municipal drainage infrastructure along Route 837 located in **Union Twp., Washington County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2031](#))

-- **Waste Management of Fairless, LLC - Fairless Landfill:** DEP renewed the waste permit for the waste facility located in **Falls Twp., Bucks County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2056](#))

-- **Waste Management Disposal Services of PA, Inc. - GROWS Landfill:** DEP approved the removal of a permit condition for the development of a landfill gas facility by March 30, 2026 located in **Falls Twp., Bucks County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2056](#))

-- **Delaware County Solid Waste Authority - Rolling Hills Landfill:** DEP renewed a Title V Air Quality Permit for the facility located in **Earl Twp., Berks County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2057](#))

-- **Hermitage Municipal Authority - Waste-To-Energy Facility:** DEP renewed a State Only Air Quality Permit for the facility located in the **City of Hermitage, Mercer County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 2058](#))

[PA Bulletin - April 11, 2026](#)

Note: The Department of Environmental Protection published 64 pages of public notices related to proposed and final permit and approval/ disapproval actions in the [April 11 PA Bulletin - pages 2007 to 2071](#).

Sign Up For DEP's eNotice: Did you know DEP can send you email notices of permit applications submitted in your community? Notice of new technical guidance documents and regulations? All through its eNotice system. [Click Here](#) to sign up.

Related Tools -----

Visit DEP's [Public Participation Center](#) for public participation opportunities.

-- [Allegheny County Health Department Public Comment Notices](#)

DEP Proposals Out For Public Review

[Other Proposals Open For Public Comment](#) - DEP webpage

Submit Comments on Proposals Through [DEP's eComment System](#)

[Recently Closed Comment Periods For Other Proposals](#) - DEP webpage

[Other Proposals Recently Finalized](#) - DEP webpage

DEP Regulations In Process

[Proposed Regulations Open For Comment](#) - DEP webpage

Submit Comments on Proposals Through [DEP's eComment System](#)

[Proposed Regulations With Closed Comment Periods](#) - DEP webpage

[Recently Finalized Regulations](#) - DEP webpage

[DEP Regulatory Update](#) - DEP webpage

DEP Technical Guidance In Process

[Draft Technical Guidance Documents](#) - DEP webpage

[Technical Guidance Comment Deadlines](#) - DEP webpage

Submit Comments on Proposals Through [DEP's eComment System](#)

[Recently Closed Comment Periods For Technical Guidance](#) - DEP webpage

[Technical Guidance Recently Finalized](#) - DEP webpage

[Copies of Final Technical Guidance](#) - DEP webpage

DEP [Non-Regulatory/Technical Guidance Documents Agenda](#) [February 2024] - DEP webpage

[Posted: April 10, 2026]

Stories Invited - About PA Environment Digest

Send your stories, photos and links to videos about your project, environmental issues or programs for publication in the **PA Environment Digest** to: PaEnviroDigest@gmail.com.

PA Environment Digest is a publication of **PA Environment News LLC** and is edited by David E. Hess, former Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. He can be contacted by sending email to: PaEnviroDigest@gmail.com.

Did you know you can search back issues of **PA Environment Digest** since May 28, 2004 on dozens of topics, by county and on any keyword you choose? [Just click on the search page](#).

PA Environment Digest weekly was the winner of the PA Association of Environmental Educators' [2009 Business Partner of the Year Award](#).

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[PA Environment Daily Blog](#): provides daily environmental NewsClips and significant stories and announcements on environmental topics in Pennsylvania of immediate value. Sign up and receive as they are posted updates through your favorite RSS reader. You can also sign up for a once daily email alerting you to new items posted on this blog. Add your constructive comment to any blog posting.

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Diversity - Equity - Inclusion (DEI)

PA Environment Digest is committed to **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)** as essential to fostering a positive work, organizational and volunteer culture.

Through exposure to diverse perspectives, organizations can improve morale, promote ethics, and drive creative problem-solving and innovation.

-- **Diversity:** The presence and participation of individuals with varying backgrounds and perspectives, including those who have been traditionally underrepresented, **strengthens organizations.**

-- **Equity:** Equal access to opportunities and fair, just, and impartial treatment is critical to **creating an ethical organizational environment.**

-- **Inclusion:** A sense of belonging in an environment where all feel welcomed, accepted, and respected, all while harming none, is the **bedrock principle on which all relationships should be based.**