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June 22, 2026

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133 New Stories - REAL Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA

Here are 133 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!

- Anthracite Heritage Foundation, [Kings College, Carnegie Hero Fund Commission To Recognize 40 Anthracite Miners Awarded Carnegie Hero Medals On June 27 In Wilkes-Barre](#) [PaEN]
- Sewickley Creek [Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Master [Watershed Steward Ken Pledger's Enthusiasm For The Environment Takes Root In Projects In Adams, Cumberland Counties](#) [PaEN]
- Republican Herald: [DHH Lengel Middle School In Pottsville Awarded 2026 Governor's Award For Environmental Excellence For Overturning A Citywide Ban On Milkweed](#)
- Delaware Highlands Conservancy [Awards Scholarship To Elizabeth Bailey, Delaware Valley High School, Pike County](#) [PaEN]
- State Budget Briefing: [94% Of Voters Believe State Parks, State Forests Are Important To Quality Of Life In Pennsylvania; 86% Want Funding Them To Be A State Priority](#) [PaEN]
- Spotlight PA: [Does The City Of Chester Water Authority In Delaware County Offer North America's Best Tasting Tap Water? They're Headed To DC To Compete](#)
- TribLive: [Etna Borough Recognized For Revitalization Efforts By Green Building Alliance](#)
- Erie Times: [See How Erie's Benedictine Sisters Have Served Erie Through The Years In Photos](#) [See Sister Pat Lupo] [[More About Sister Pat Lupo](#)]
- Williamsport Sun: [Hughesville Library Holds Release Of Trout In The Classroom Rainbow](#)

Trout Fingerlings

- Guest Essay: [For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table](#) - By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive Editorial: [Latest Examples Of Efforts To Narrow Public Discourse Should Be Opposed](#)
- **PA Oil & Gas Weekly** [Compliance Dashboard - June 13 to 19 - 4 Contaminated Groundwater Releases From Conventional Wells; Abandoned Conventional Well Violations Hit 300](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Finds [Large Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From 2 Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Sites In Sugar Grove Twp., Warren County; That's 3 Spill Sites This Week](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Finds [Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Site In Brokenstraw Twp., Warren County, 3rd Site This Week](#) [PaEN]
- DEP Finds No [Action Taken To Cleanup Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Oil Well At A Site In Washington County For 936 Days](#) [PaEN]
- Inquirer: [Delta Monroe Energy Jet Fuel Refinery In Delaware County Shuts Down Due To Internal Leak](#)
- In Case You Were Wondering: Breathe Project Cams: [‘Emergency’ Flares Still Burning At MarkWest Harmon Creek, Energy Transfer Revolution Natural Gas Processing Plants In Washington County 6.17.26](#)
- Rolling Stone/DeSmog - Justin Nobel: [Her Son Died Of A Rare Bone Cancer, Could Unsecured Oil & Gas Equipment Waste Facility In Cecil Twp., Washington County Be To Blame?](#)
- TribLive: [Penneco Repairs Road Near Oil & Gas Wastewater Injection Wells In Plum Boro After Damage From Truck Traffic In Allegheny County](#)
- PUC Announced [Distribution Of \\$243.8 Million In Act 13 Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fees For PA Communities, State Environmental, Other Programs](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive: [New Shale Gas Wells, Higher Natural Gas Prices Raise State's Drilling Impact Fee Distribution To \\$243.8 Million](#)
- Institute For Energy Economics & Financial Analysis: [Pennsylvania's Shrinking Fossil Fuel Footprint Leaves A Widening Fiscal Gap To Support Tax Credits For Fossil Fuel Industry](#)
- ProPublica: [President Plans To Protect Methane-Leaking Conventional /Stripper Oil & Gas Wells, Hilcorp Oil & Gas Company Owner To Benefit](#) [Hilcorp Operates In PA] [Warning]
- Utility Dive: [Dept. Of Defense Intervenes In Clean Air Act Lawsuit Against Use Of Gas-Fired Power Turbines To Feed Colossus 2 Data Center In Mississippi Saying It Threatens National Security](#) [Warning]
- The Center Square: [PA's Energy Future A Defining Issue In Gubernatorial Race](#)
- The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require](#)

[PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)] [Warning]

-- The Guardian: [How The Fight Over US A.I. Data Centers Is Scrambling Pennsylvania's Politics: 'We Don't Want It'](#)

-- Centre Daily Times Column: [Climate Watch - Energy Concerns Now Focus For State Lawmakers](#)

-- PA House [Passes Legislation Authorizing Virtual Power Plants To Use Existing Energy Resources More Effectively, Address Grid Reliability, Rising Energy Bills; 16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate](#) [PaEN]

-- House Committees [OK Bills To Add Energy Storage To Grid To Improve Reliability; Add Conditions For Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit; Speed Connection Of Clean Energy Generation To Grid To Help Reduce Energy Costs; Other Bills](#) [PaEN]

-- ICYMI: [Legislation To Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Voted Out Of House Finance Committee](#)

-- Legislation To [Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Introduced In PA House](#) [[House Bill 2650](#)]

-- PennLive: [As PA Data Center Development Surges, PA House Fast-Tracks Bills To Address It](#) [Not Senate]

-- PA Capital-Star: [PA House Bill Would Tie Data Center Tax Break To Transparency, Sustainability](#)

-- The Center Square: [PA House Lawmakers Advance Bill To Curb Nondisclosure Agreements On A.I. Data Centers](#) [But Only For Those Seeking State Tax Credit]

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [\\$1.2 Billion, 4,000 Acre Land Deal Announced With 194 Landowners For 2nd A.I. Data Center Project With 39 Buildings, 4 GW Power Plant Demand In Salem Twp., Luzerne County By 4-3 Group](#)

-- The Citizens' Voice: [3rd A.I. Data Center Proposal In Salem Twp. Could Generate \\$1.2 Billion For Landowners In Luzerne County](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Lackawanna County Eyes A.I. Data Center Health Impact Study, Emergency Response Assessment](#)

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: ['Wildly Unpopular, Obscenely Invasive' Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developers Rests Its Comically Unconvincing Case In Archbald Hearing](#) [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- LehighValleyLive: [Massive Lehigh Valley Warehouse Set To Convert To A.I. Data Center In Allen Twp., Northampton County](#)

-- Republican Herald: [Amazon Web Services Outlines Plans For 380 Acre A.I. Data Center In Kline Twp., Schuylkill County](#)

-- Williamsport Sun: [Former Muncy Twp. Zoning Officer Said Data Center Proposal Was Being Pushed Thru As A Warehouse And It Should Be Denied, Resubmitted As A Conditional Use](#)

-- TheDerrick.com: [Venango County Residents Pack Meeting To Voice Concerns Over Proposed A.I. Data Center Proposal In Scrubgrass Twp. At Scrubgrass Power Plant](#) [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)

-- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13

telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)

-- PA Capital-Star/The Conversation: [How PA Towns Are Protecting Themselves From The Noise, Heat And Utility Costs Of A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- PennEnvironment [Offers A.I. Data Center Resources: True Costs Of Data Centers To The Environment, Consumers; Impacts Of Dirty Backup Generators; Slowing Transition To Clean Energy](#) [PaEN]

-- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#) [PaEN]

-- AP: [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Backs President's Plan To Speed Power To Energy-Hungry A.I. Data Centers](#) [Warning]

-- FERC Release: [FERC Orders Regional Grid Operators To Justify Or Reform Tariffs For Data Centers To Speed Large Load Integration](#) [Warning]

-- Natural Resources Defense Council Blog: [President Wants PJM To Give The Gas Industry A Multibillion Gift To Supply Power To A.I. Data Centers In Upcoming Power Auction](#) - By Tom Rutigliano [Warning]

-- Inquirer: [Owner Of Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Says Plant Is On Track To Restart Next Year](#)

-- PJM Interconnection [Issues 4th Hot Weather Alert Of Season For June 18 In Mid-Atlantic, Southern Regions](#) [PaEN]

-- TribLive: [Assistance Available As Electric Bill Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation Rate](#)

-- PUC [Advances Proposed Cybersecurity Regulations For PA Utilities](#)

-- DEP Citizens Advisory [Council Meets June 23 To Hear Presentation On Carbon Capture; Discuss Comments On DEP Act 54 Report On Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining; Air Quality Regulations](#) [PaEN]

-- Allegheny County [To Host June 24 Virtual Meeting Inviting Public Input On The County's First-Ever Climate Action Plan](#) [PaEN]

-- Planet Philadelphia [Radio Show June 19: Sustainability At Colleges & Universities](#), 4:00 p.m.

-- First United [Presbyterian Church Of Crafton Heights In Pittsburgh Cut Energy Bills By More Than 2/3, Now Invests More In People, The Community](#) [PaEN]

-- Reminder: [June 23 In-Person DEP Hearing On Stormwater Permit For Mora Solar LLC 390-Acre Solar Energy Facility In Kidder Twp., Carbon County](#)

-- PennDOT [Now Accepting Applications For National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grants In Western And Southeast PA; June 25 Webinar For Western Applicants](#) [PaEN]

-- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Eos Energy Energy Storage Company Starts Production At 2nd Facility In Pittsburgh Area](#)

-- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Eos Energy Energy Storage Company Secures Exclusive Distributor For Germany, Austria, Switzerland](#)

-- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN] [Warning]

- TribLive - Jack Troy: [Firepoint Energy Mining Leftovers For Rare Earth Minerals Offers Billion-Dollar Opportunities In PA](#)
- The Allegheny Front: [New LCT Energy Rustic Ridge Coal Mine Could Dump 2.8 Million Gallons Of Treated Wastewater Into Westmoreland County Trout Stream](#)
- TribLive Letter: [Let's Correct The Record, LCT Energy Does Have Violations At Its Rustic Ridge No. 1 Underground Coal Mine In Westmoreland, Fayette Counties](#) - By Stacey Magda, Mountain Watershed Association
- Observer-Reporter Guest Essay: [Pennsylvania Coal Makes A Comeback, Long-Term Coal-fired Power Plants Cannot Compete Economically With Cheaper Renewables](#) - By Gary Stout, Washington Attorney [[PDF of Article](#)]

- Save The Date: [Penn State Ag Progress Days - August 11-13](#)
- PA Interfaith [Power & Light Seeking Volunteers To Provide Peer-To-Peer Support To Congregations, Community Groups Looking To Plan Their First Or Next Tree Planting Project](#) [PaEN]
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- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Stormwater Project Aims To Reduce Flooding In South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods](#)
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- PA American Water [Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair](#) [PaEN]
- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area, Northumberland County](#)
- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)

- Altoona Mirror: [Anaerobic Digester Company Pays Altoona Water Authority \\$551,000 to Cover Shortfall In Operating Income For 2025, Another Shortfall Likely This Year](#)
- The Conversation: [Microplastics Are Everywhere In Pennsylvania's Water - But There May Be A Little Bit Of Hope](#) - By Penn State Professors Nathaniel Warner, Lisa Emili and Raymond Najjar
- WHY? [Delaware County Wastewater Samples Test Positive For Measles, So Far No Person Has A Confirmed Diagnosis Of The Disease](#)
- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

- Morning Call: [PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Found In Delaware River Water, Wildlife; Why This Matters](#)

- Spotlight PA/NOTUS: [The Dept. Of Defense Quietly Delayed PFAS ‘Forever Chemical’ Cleanup At 9 Military Sites In Pennsylvania](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Somerset Commissioners Request PA Turnpike Commission Review Of Emergency Response To Truck Fire In Allegheny Tunnel Citing Problems With Emergency Water System, Ventilation, Communication](#)
- Registration Now Open! [Keep PA Beautiful 2026 Annual Conference - Oct. 14-15 In Reading](#)
- PA Fibershed [Seeks Next Generation Of Student Leaders For Ambassador Program, Applications Close June 30](#) [PaEN]
- Fort Indiantown Gap [Offering Tours Of Rare Regal Fritillary Butterfly Habitat In Lebanon County](#) [PaEN]
- The Allegheny Front: [New Brandywine Conservancy, Westmoreland Pollinator Partners Effort Aims To Certify 250 ‘WayStations’ In 4 County Laurel Highlands For Monarch Butterflies](#)
- WTAE: [Forest County Firefly Festival Draws Visitors For Rare Synchronous Display To Allegheny National Forest](#)
- Save The Date: [Celebrate The Blazing Star Bloom July 25 At PA’s Only Prairie, Jennings Environmental Education Center In Butler County](#)
- KYW: [Vacant Lots In Delaware County Could Transform Into Green Spaces Thanks To An Expanding Initiative](#)
- WHYY - Zoe Read: [City Of Chester In Delaware County Fights Illegal Dumping With New Greening Initiative For Vacant Lots](#)
- PA Sea Grant: [Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz Set For June 29 to July 12: Clean Your Gear!](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey: Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)
- DCNR State Park Environmental Ed News: [Bright Summer Teaching Ideas! June 21 Solstice: Professional Development Opportunities; Explore The Outdoors!](#)
- LancasterOnline: [2.4 Magnitude Earthquake Shakes Maryland/PA](#)
- Erie Times: [Presque Isle State Park Beaches To Get Federal Funding For Sand Replenishment In Reversal](#)
- Inquirer: [Popular But Deadly Glen Onoko Falls Trail In Carbon County Will Reopen In The Poconos](#)
- The EPIC Allegheny Odyssey - [Paddling Thru 250 Years Of American History, 75 Miles Of The Allegheny River From Warren To Emlenton July 26 to Aug. 1](#) [PaEN]
- Reading Eagle: [Schuylkill River Sojourn Travels Into Berks County](#) [In Photos]
- Reading Eagle: [28th Schuylkill River Sojourn Lands In Pottstown](#) [Photos, Video]
- Morning Call: [After Man Drowned In Easton, Officials Urge Caution While On Rivers](#)
- LancasterOnline: [4 Projects Getting Southcentral PA Closer To A Connected Trail System](#)
- TribLive: [Part Of Great Allegheny Passage To Close Next Month For Landslide Repairs](#)
- Warren Times: [Members Of Rainbow Family Of Living Light Gathering In Allegheny National Forest](#)

- Post-Gazette: [The Scoop On Pennsylvania's Ice Cream Trail](#)
- Lehigh Valley-based [Wildlands Conservancy Highlights July Experiences, Programs; Summer Camp Registration Now Open](#)
- Call For Presentation [Proposals: PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference & Expo March 16-19](#) [PaEN]
- Help Wanted: [PA Parks & Forests Foundation Membership & Development Coordinator](#) [PaEN]
- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites](#) [[Video & Photos](#)]
- WVIA: [Health Officials Urge Prevention During Tick Bite Spike For NE PA Residents](#)
- Williamsport Sun Editorial: [Ways To Deal With A Bad Year For Ticks](#)
- PA Sea Grant: [Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz Set For June 29 to July 12; Clean Your Gear!](#) [PaEN]
- PA Capital-Star: [E-Scooters Are Everywhere In PA, This Legislation Would Make Them Legal](#)
- PennLive: [PA House Passes Bill Targeting Illegal Dirt Bikes, ATVs](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Flight 93 Architect Speaks About Memorial That Marries Land, Architecture, Tragedy And Heroism](#)
- Tribune-Democrat: [Friends Of Flight 93 Memorial Name Donna Gibson Executive Director](#)
- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: [US Senate Advances America The Beautiful Act, Aiming To Renew Critical Funding For Public Lands](#)
- Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)
- WHY? [Federal Court Ruling Clears Way To Replace Slavery Exhibit In Philadelphia At President's House Site, Handing President A Win](#)
- TribLive: [Learn About The Life Of A Game Warden At Junior Game Commission Warden Camp](#)
- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: [Game Commission Offers Nesting Boxes For Purple Martins, Swifts](#)
- Erie Times: [Thousands Watching Erie-Based Purple Martin Live Nestcam, 5 Eggs Ready To Hatch](#)
- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: [New Harpy Eagle At Pittsburgh National Aviary Is A 'Once-In-A-Lifetime Species To See'](#)
- WNEP: [Snakes Take Center Stage At Noxen's Annual Rattlesnake Round-Up In Wyoming County](#)

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

REAL Leadership:

- [133 New Stories - REAL Environmental & Conservation Leadership In PA](#)
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- 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: June 21, 2026]

Stories You May Have Missed Last Week: PA Environment & Energy Articles & NewsClips By Topic - June 22



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

-- 6.22.26 - [PA Environment Digest - All Articles & NewsClips From This Issue By Topic](#)

Other Handy Groups Of Articles & NewsClips

From This Week--

- 133 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 - June 22](#)

[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 June 22 PA Environment Digest.](#)

Photos:

-- Sewickley Creek [Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7](#) [PaEN]

[Posted: June 21, 2026]

Anthracite Heritage Foundation, Kings College, Carnegie Hero Fund Commission To Recognize 40 Anthracite Miners Awarded Carnegie Hero Medals On June 27 In Wilkes-Barre



The [Anthracite Heritage Foundation](#), [Kings College](#) and the [Carnegie Hero Fund Commission](#) will honor the forty anthracite miners who have been recognized with Carnegie Hero Medals over the years with a monument in the Miners Memorial Park across from the west side of Public Square in Wilkes-Barre on June 27.

Andrew Carnegie, the Scottish immigrant, industrialist and philanthropist, established the

Carnegie Heroes Fund Commission in 1905 in Pittsburgh. His motive was to award the Carnegie Medal to individuals who had engaged in extraordinary acts of courage.

Over 10,000 medals have since been conferred on persons from throughout the U.S. and Canada. Forty of them have been bestowed on persons whose heroism occurred within the anthracite coal industry of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Bios Of The 40 Miners

[Click Here for the name of each miner and a biography.](#)

The list of 40 miners includes the late miner Amadeo Pancotti of Pittston, hero of the [Knox Mine Disaster of 1959](#).

The Program

The dedication program will take place in the auditorium of The Alley Center at King's College on Public Square in downtown Wilkes-Barre at 1:00 p.m., followed by the monument's unveiling and blessing in The Miners Park at the front of The Alley Center.

The program speakers will include **Fr. Thomas Looney**, President of King's College; **George Brown** Mayor of Wilkes-Barre; **Jewels Phraner** of the Carnegie Heroes Commission; **Thomas Lowther Bell**, great grandson of John Tennant Brown, who was awarded the Carnegie Medal for saving four men after an explosion on January 10, 1911, at Hoyt Shaft, near Pittston; and **Professor Robert P. Wolensky** of the AHF and King's College.

Tony Brooks of the AHF and the Wilkes-Barre Preservation Society will serve as the

Master of Ceremonies.

Visit the [Anthracite Heritage Foundation](#), [Kings College](#) and [Carnegie Hero Fund Commission](#) websites for more information.

Related Articles This Week:

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- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]
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[Posted: June 21, 2026]

Sewickley Creek Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7



On August 7, the [Sewickley Creek Watershed Association](#) will celebrate 35 years of restoring water quality in Westmoreland County with a special celebration at the lower Volunteer Fire Department Hall in Lowber from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

After the celebration luncheon there will be a tour of the award-winning [Lower Abandoned Mine Drainage](#)

[Treatment System](#) which is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

It All Started....

In 1991, a group of concerned citizens formed the Sewickley Creek Watershed Association to promote the conservation of natural resources, monitor and improve water quality, and advocate wise land use practices in the Sewickley Creek Watershed.

The Sewickley Creek Watershed is a 168 square mile area in Southwestern Westmoreland

County, Pennsylvania, drained by Sewickley Creek and its major tributaries.

The watershed is a diverse area that consists of cities, boroughs, farms, and wild scenic areas. It is an area rich in history, recreational opportunities, and, unfortunately, significant water pollution problems.

Many streams and creeks in the watershed have a bright orange color due to abandoned mine drainage.

To help clean up local waterways, the Association--

- Monitors water quality and identifies sources of pollution in the watershed.
- Partners with government agencies and other organizations to sponsor, develop, and maintain AMD treatment programs.
- Works with local industries to monitor discharge facilities.
- Participates in developing uses for AMD iron oxide as it is removed from our waterways.
- Conducts regularly scheduled volunteer cleanups to help rid our waterways of trash and litter in order to preserve their natural beauty.
- Identifies problems and seeks out new sources of funding for future water quality projects through the Rivers Conservation Program.

[Click Here to see the Association's major projects.](#)

More information on this special celebration will be posted on the [Sewickley Creek Watershed Association](#) website.

(Photo: Lowber AMD Treatment Project.)

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[Posted: June 16, 2026]

Penn State Master Watershed Steward Ken Pledger's Enthusiasm For The Environment Takes Root In Projects In Adams, Cumberland Counties

By Sean Duke, [Penn State News](#)



Ken Pledger, of Cumberland County, has spent the past few years volunteering with Penn State Extension's [Master Watershed Steward Program](#), putting in more than 500 hours of service working on a variety of tree-planting, stream testing and other environmental projects across the county.

Pledger explained that he discovered the Master Watershed Steward program after he and his daughter volunteered for a stream monitoring project on the East Branch of Antietam Creek.

During this project, the pair conducted monthly chemical tests, which gave them insight into the stream's seasonal and chemical fluctuations.

He joined the Master Watershed Steward program's Cumberland County class in 2022 and quickly got to work.

Pledger's first project with the program was a tree-planting effort on the Lake Heritage property in Adams County, where program members worked with community members throughout the process.

"We were given a presentation by one of the homeowners in that lake's community who expressed concerns with man-made lakes," **Pledger said**. "It was quite an eye-opener to learn about the long-term responsibilities associated with having such a water feature in their

community.”

Pledger participated in the [Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership](#), a collaborative effort to plant 10 million new trees in priority landscapes in Pennsylvania by the end of 2025. He noted that he took part in many tree-planting events, from school grounds to land reclamation for an open-pit mine.

Furthermore, program organizers noted that Pledger has gone above and beyond, dedicating time to learning more about how water moves and functions in landscapes for use in his program and personal work.

“After completing my training as a Master Watershed Steward, I received additional training through the Chesapeake Urban Stormwater Professionals,” **Pledger said**. “Here I learned about the impacts of runoff and how to create permeable surfaces. One such practice I used on my property was the construction of three swales that follow the contours of our land.”

A swale is a shallow, sloped depression in the landscape designed to collect and slow rainwater.

He explained that the goal of the personal project is to catch stormwater runoff, reduce the risk of flooding, help offset water pollution and give stormwater time to infiltrate the soil.

Karen Kaslow, Master Watershed Steward [coordinator for Adams County](#), praised Pledger's consistent efforts to strengthen the health of the commonwealth's watersheds and other natural resources.

Pledger and Kaslow encourage those with a passion for nature and a desire to learn to join the Master Watershed Steward program, where they will gain valuable skills to help improve the natural environment, whether at home or in the field.

The [Penn State Master Watershed Steward Program](#) provides extensive training in watershed management to volunteers who, in return, educate the community about watershed stewardship based on university research and recommendations.

The program was established to strengthen local capacity for management and protection of watersheds, streams and rivers by educating and empowering volunteers across the Commonwealth.

(Photo: Ken Pledger has worked on a variety of projects, including forested riparian buffers.)

(Reprinted from [Penn State News](#).)

Related Articles This Week:

- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]
- Sewickley Creek [Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Master [Watershed Steward Ken Pledger's Enthusiasm For The Environment Takes Root In Projects In Adams, Cumberland Counties](#) [PaEN]
- PA Interfaith [Power & Light Seeking Volunteers To Provide Peer-To-Peer Support To Congregations, Community Groups Looking To Plan Their First Or Next Tree Planting Project](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension [July 14 Webinar: Preview Of 2026 Watershed-Friendly Tree And Shrub Sale To Help You Choose Plants Confidently](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension [July 15 Webinar On Private Water Supply Testing Packages Available](#)

[From Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Lab](#) [PaEN]

-- Penn State Extension: [July 22 Webinar On Diagnosing Common Well Water Issues; August 19 Webinar On Choosing The Right Water Treatment Device](#) [PaEN]

-- Save The Date: [Penn State Ag Progress Days - August 11-13](#)

-- PA American Water [Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)

-- WESA - Rachel McDewitt: [Stormwater Project Aims To Reduce Flooding In South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods](#)

-- TribLive - Jack Troy: [Firepoint Energy Mining Leftovers For Rare Earth Minerals Offers Billion-Dollar Opportunities In PA](#)

-- Independent: [Susquehanna County Conservation District Hosting Student Watershed Day Camp July 21](#)

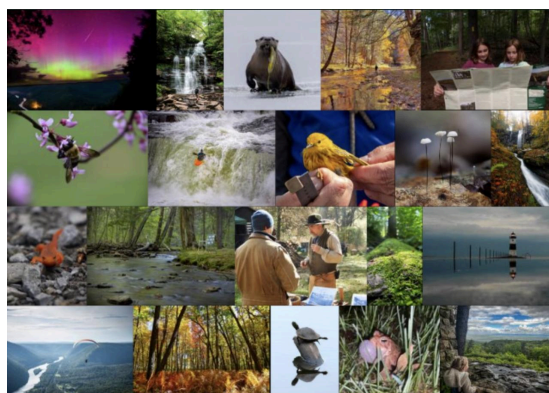
-- TribLive Letter: [Let's Correct The Record, LCT Energy Does Have Violations At Its Rustic Ridge No. 1 Underground Coal Mine In Westmoreland, Fayette Counties](#) - By Stacey Magda, [Mountain Watershed Association](#)

-- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area, Northumberland County](#)

-- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

[Posted: June 15, 2026]

State Budget Briefing: 94% Of Voters Believe State Parks, State Forests Are Important To Quality Of Life In Pennsylvania; 86% Want Funding Them To Be A State Priority



The [PA Parks and Forests Foundation](#) recently circulated the results of a poll of likely voters on the importance of state parks and state forests to members of the General Assembly as they and the Governor head into the home stretch of FY 2026-27 state budget discussions.

The poll by [Susquehanna Polling & Research](#) found--

-- **94% believe state parks and forests** are either “very” or “somewhat” important to quality of life and the overall state of Pennsylvania – including 85% “very” important. This strong affirmation exists

regardless of whether or not respondents are regular visitors to state parks and forests.

-- **86% believe state funding for state parks and forests** should be a funding priority of state government – including 50% who “strongly” agree. Agreement that state funding should be a priority is broad-based and bipartisan, including 87% of Republicans, 85% of Democrats, 86% of independent voters.

There was strong support in every region of the state to prioritize funding--

- 72% in Northwest/Erie
- 88% in Southwest/Pittsburgh - 80% in Pittsburgh
- 94% in Northcentral "T" of the state
- 87% in Northeast/Wilkes-Barre/Scranton
- 84% in Southcentral/Harrisburg
- 85% in Southeast counties - 88% in Philadelphia

Data Center/Energy Development

Specific questions on protecting state parks and forests from data center development and new energy infrastructure found--

- **79% of likely voters support** the requirement to create a buffer or “setback” for the construction of data centers near state parks or forests to protect the natural and recreational value of these lands (such as water resources, wildlife, sound quality and dark skies) – even if it means the new buffers would increase the costs of data centers, 11% disagreed.
- **78% of likely voters agreed new energy** and/or other utility infrastructure such as towers, transmission lines and pipelines **should avoid protected lands** such as state parks and forests, only 10% disagreed.

Agreement on both these questions was broad based and bipartisan and includes strong majorities of voters in key demographic groups.

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

Action Alert!

Senate Bill 857 Undermines Land Sales, Donations For Conservation Purposes And Is A “Startling Interference” With The Rights of Private Property Owners.

The PA Senate is about to vote on the bill.

[Click Here to learn more](#) (scroll down) and let your voice be heard.

Think Outside Podcast

The latest Think Outside Podcast is now available: [Rooted In Stewardship - The William Penn Forest District With Rick Hartlieb](#)

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

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

For more information on programs, initiatives, special events and how you can get involved, visit the [PA Parks & Forests Foundation](#) website. [Click Here](#) to sign up for regular updates from the Foundation, [Like them on Facebook](#) or [Follow them on Twitter](#) or tune in to their [YouTube Channel](#). [Click Here](#) to become a member of the Foundation.

Related Articles This Week:

- State Budget Briefing: [94% Of Voters Believe State Parks, State Forests Are Important To Quality Of Life In Pennsylvania; 86% Want Funding Them To Be A State Priority](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)
- DCNR State Park Environmental Ed News: [Bright Summer Teaching Ideas! June 21 Solstice; Professional Development Opportunities; Explore The Outdoors!](#)
- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites](#) [Video &Photos]
- Call For Presentation [Proposals: PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference & Expo March 16-19](#) [PaEN]

- Help Wanted: [PA Parks & Forests Foundation Membership & Development Coordinator](#) [PaEN]
- Save The Date: [Celebrate The Blazing Star Bloom July 25 At PA's Only Prairie, Jennings Environmental Education Center In Butler County](#)
- The EPIC Allegheny Odyssey - [Paddling Thru 250 Years Of American History, 75 Miles Of The Allegheny River From Warren To Emlenton July 26 to Aug. 1](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- Erie Times: [Presque Isle State Park Beaches To Get Federal Funding For Sand Replenishment In Reversal](#)
 - Inquirer: [Popular But Deadly Glen Onoko Falls Trail In Carbon County Will Reopen In The Poconos](#)
 - PennLive: [PA House Passes Bill Targeting Illegal Dirt Bikes, ATVs](#)
 - TribLive: [Part Of Great Allegheny Passage To Close Next Month For Landslide Repairs](#)
 - LancasterOnline: [4 Projects Getting Southcentral PA Closer To A Connected Trail System](#)
 - Post-Gazette: [The Scoop On Pennsylvania's Ice Cream Trail](#)
 - PA Capital-Star: [E-Scooters Are Everywhere In PA, This Legislation Would Make Them Legal](#)
 - WVIA: [Health Officials Urge Prevention During Tick Bite Spike For NE PA Residents](#)
 - Williamsport Sun Editorial: [Ways To Deal With A Bad Year For Ticks](#)
 - WHY? [Federal Court Ruling Clears Way To Replace Slavery Exhibit In Philadelphia At President's House Site, Handing President A Win](#)
 - Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: [US Senate Advances America The Beautiful Act, Aiming To Renew Critical Funding For Public Lands](#)
 - Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)
- [Posted: June 19, 2026]

Guest Essay: For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table

By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#)

As we approach America's Semiquicentennial, or 250th birthday, it is time to reflect on how this nation began.

Our democracy was not born in a sterile state office building or a federal high-rise; it was born in town halls, in village squares, and in local meetings.

It was built on the common-sense idea that the people who know a community best are the people who live in it.

Yet, as we head toward this historic 250th anniversary, that foundational principle is under fire.

Across Pennsylvania, our municipalities are increasingly treated not as the partners they



are, but as mere “subsidiaries” of the state.

Decisions that once happened at the kitchen table or the township meeting are now being made by remote control from Harrisburg and Washington, D.C.

To honor our 250-year legacy, we must restore the balance. That is why we are launching the Pennsylvania Local Government Bill of Rights.

This initiative is our call to return to the roots of American self-governance.

It is a common-sense declaration that the management of public business must be rooted in the unique landscape of our own communities.

We are calling for a return to five fundamental rights:

-- **The Right to Plan Our Future:** Local decisions belong in local hands.

-- **The Right to Protect Our Backyards:** Zoning and land use are the heartbeat of a community; they should be directed by the neighbors who live there, not by “one-size-fits-all” statewide mandates.

-- **The Right to Freedom from Unfunded Mandates:** It’s time the state stopped sending local taxpayers the bill for policies they never ordered.

-- **The Right to Modern Transparency:** We are bringing the “Town Crier” into 2026.

Transparency should be about accessibility, using the websites and social media our residents actually use, rather than forcing expensive, outdated print ads.

-- **The Right to a Seat at the Table:** True partnership requires listening. We are demanding that state agencies consult with local leaders before they adopt policies that fundamentally change our communities.

As we celebrate 250 years of American independence, we must remember that freedom is maintained only when government stays close to the people.

When we strip local leaders of their authority, we move further away from the very democracy our Founders envisioned.

Common sense is making a comeback in Pennsylvania.

By signing on to the Local Government Bill of Rights, we are saying “yes” to stronger communities, fairer rules for taxpayers, and a future where local voices are not just heard but also respected.

This Semiquicentennial, let’s do more than just celebrate our past.

Let’s secure our future by empowering the level of government that has served Pennsylvania since our nation’s founding: local government, which is the true embodiment of a government “of the people, by the people, for the people.” Join us in standing up for local government and the residents we serve every day.

David M. Sanko is the executive director of the [Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors](#) (PSATS).

[Posted: June 18, 2026]

DEP Finds Large Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From 2 Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Sites In Sugar Grove Twp., Warren County; That’s 3 Spill Sites This Week



On June 8, 2026, the Department of Environmental Protection did routine inspections of two conventional oil

and gas wells owned by Trinity Mineral Partners, LLC and found large contaminated groundwater releases from the wells had killed vegetation, soaked into soil and polluted road ditches at both sites in Sugar Grove Township, Warren County.

At the [Loomis Lease Loomis 4](#) well site with two contaminated groundwater storage tanks, inspectors found “evidence of a concentrated flow of fluids was observed just beyond the secondary containment diking.”

“Bare soils outside of containment were observed to have been eroded in a manner consistent with the channelized flow of a large volume of fluid.”

“Areas downslope of the tank battery where the flow of fluid was observed to widen (visible via the wide swath of stressed and dead vegetation).”

“The downslope path of the released fluid was then captured by a lease road ditch approximately 150 feet downslope of the tank battery.

“The total observed path of stressed/dead vegetation and elevated conductivity readings was approximately 750 feet in length and up to 30 feet in width.”

Multiple field readings confirmed very high conductivity levels consistent with a release of contaminated groundwater from the well.

At the [Akins Lease Akins 1](#) conventional well site there was evidence of stress and dead vegetation in the vicinity of two contaminated groundwater storage tanks at the site.

A drain line was installed at the top of one contaminated groundwater tank that allowed overflow from the tank to pool within the secondary containment area around the tank.

“Evidence of pooling was visible in the containment area via crude oil staining and stressed vegetation.

“This indicates that fluid once filled the secondary containment, but apparently was able to migrate downward and/or outward through the secondary containment diking.

“Stressed and dead vegetation downslope and immediately outside the secondary containment dike further indicates the likelihood that the integrity of the secondary containment is inadequate.

“Understory vegetation was killed in an area approximately 30 feet wide by 200 feet long.”

There was also a buried tank for storing contaminated groundwater that showed evidence of a release.

Multiple field readings confirmed very high conductivity levels consistent with a release of contaminated groundwater from the well.

Multiple violations were issued at both wells, including failure to notify DEP of the releases.

DEP requested a response to the violations by June 29.

DEP inspection reports/photos: [Loomis Lease Loomis 4](#) and [Akins Lease Akins 1](#).

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-- Loomis contaminated groundwater storage tanks start of release; 2 photos of dead vegetation showing path of release flowing downhill; Field measuring conductivity; Row 2-- Atkins contaminated groundwater aboveground tanks, buried storage tank; dead vegetation showing path of release; Field measuring conductivity.)

[**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:

-- PA Oil & Gas Weekly [Compliance Dashboard - June 13 to 19 - 4 Contaminated Groundwater Releases From Conventional Wells; Abandoned Conventional Well Violations Hit 300](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Large Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From 2 Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Sites In Sugar Grove Twp., Warren County; That's 3 Spill Sites This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Site In Brokenstraw Twp., Warren County, 3rd Site This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds No [Action Taken To Cleanup Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Oil Well At A Site In Washington County For 936 Days](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Oil & Gas [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - June 20](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Posted [51 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In June 20 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]

-- Reminder: [June 23 In-Person DEP Hearing On Stormwater Permit For Mora Solar LLC 390-Acre Solar Energy Facility In Kidder Twp., Carbon County](#)

-- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)

-- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)

Related Articles This Week:

-- PUC Announced [Distribution Of \\$243.8 Million In Act 13 Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fees For PA Communities, State Environmental, Other Programs](#) [PaEN]

-- In Case You Missed It: [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#) [PaEN]

-- Guest Essay: [For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table](#) - By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- Rolling Stone/DeSmog - Justin Nobel: [Her Son Died Of A Rare Bone Cancer, Could Unsecured Oil & Gas Equipment Waste Facility In Cecil Twp., Washington County Be To](#)

Blame?

- Inquirer: [Delta Monroe Energy Jet Fuel Refinery In Delaware County Shuts Down Due To Internal Leak](#)
 - TribLive: [Penneco Repairs Road Near Oil & Gas Wastewater Injection Wells In Plum Boro After Damage From Truck Traffic In Allegheny County](#)
 - ProPublica: [President Plans To Protect Methane-Leaking Conventional /Stripper Oil & Gas Wells, Hilcorp Oil & Gas Company Owner To Benefit](#) [Hilcorp Operates In PA]
 - In Case You Were Wondering: Breathe Project Cams: [‘Emergency’ Flares Still Burning At MarkWest Harmon Creek, Energy Transfer Revolution Natural Gas Processing Plants In Washington County 6.17.26](#)
 - TribLive: [New Shale Gas Wells, Higher Natural Gas Prices Raise State’s Drilling Impact Fee Distribution To \\$243.8 Million](#)
 - TribLive Editorial: [Latest Examples Of Efforts To Narrow Public Discourse Should Be Opposed](#)
 - Natural Resources Defense Council Blog: [President Wants PJM To Give The Gas Industry A Multibillion Gift To Supply Power To A.I. Data Centers In Upcoming Power Auction](#) - By Tom Rutigliano
 - The Center Square: [PA’s Energy Future A Defining Issue In Gubernatorial Race](#)
 - The Guardian: [How The Fight Over US A.I. Data Centers Is Scrambling Pennsylvania’s Politics: ‘We Don’t Want It’](#)
 - PennLive: [As PA Data Center Development Surges, PA House Fast-Tracks Bills To Address It \[Not Senate\]](#)
 - The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)]
 - Institute For Energy Economics & Financial Analysis: [Pennsylvania’s Shrinking Fossil Fuel Footprint Leaves A Widening Fiscal Gap To Support Tax Credits For Fossil Fuel Industry](#)
 - Utility Dive: [Dept. Of Defense Intervenes In Clean Air Act Lawsuit Against Use Of Gas-Fired Power Turbines To Feed Colossus 2 Data Center In Mississippi Saying It Threatens National Security](#)
 - Utility Dive: [US EIA: Natural Gas Generation Down 60% From 2024 On Same Capacity In California As Cheaper Solar, Power Imports Surge](#)
- [Posted: June 16, 2026]

DEP Finds Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Site In Brokenstraw Twp., Warren County, 3rd Site This Week



On June 15, 2026, a routine inspection of the Trinity Mineral Partners LLC Conklin Lease C1 conventional oil and gas well site in Brokenstraw Township, Warren County found evidence of a significant release of contaminated groundwater around aboveground and buried storage tanks. [Read more here.](#)

On June 8, 2026, the Department of Environmental

Protection did routine inspections of two other conventional oil and gas wells owned by Trinity Mineral Partners, LLC and found large contaminated groundwater releases from the wells had killed vegetation, soaked into soil and polluted road ditches at both sites in Sugar Grove Township, Warren County. [Read more here.](#)

“A discharge of production fluids [contaminated groundwater] is evident at the Conklin Lease tank battery. Mature trees at the southwest corner of the secondary containment area are either heavily stressed or dead.

“A brine [contaminated groundwater] tank is buried within the secondary containment area. PVC lines connect the drain valves of the stock tanks in containment to cutout holes in the surface of the brine tank.

“Evidence of previous fluid releases in the containment area are visible via crude oil staining and sawdust sprinkled over the oil-stained areas.”

“A pool of fluid was present in the southernmost end of the containment area, in what appeared to be a sump. At the time of this inspection, the fluid was observed to have elevated specific conductance....”

“A pool of fluid was present in the southernmost end of the containment area, in what appeared to be a sump.

“At the time of this inspection, the fluid was observed to have elevated specific conductance elevated specific conductance in excess of 4,000 uS/cm was observed in soils within the swale directly across from the tank battery.

“Crude oil staining was also observed in the swale near the tank battery.”

“The swale transitions to an UNT [unnamed tributary] to Irvine Run with defined bed and banks downslope of the tank battery.

“The water flowing in the UNT was found to have elevated specific conductance exceeding 13,000 uS/cm. Elevated specific conductance of water was observed throughout the stream at the time of this inspection.”

Multiple violations issued. Owner was requested to provide disposal receipts for the contaminated groundwater at the site.

Response requested by July 3. [DEP inspection report.](#)

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

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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: Contaminated groundwater storage tanks; Measuring contamination at the tank site; Down the drainage swale; Into unnamed tributary of Irvine Run.)

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

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-- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)

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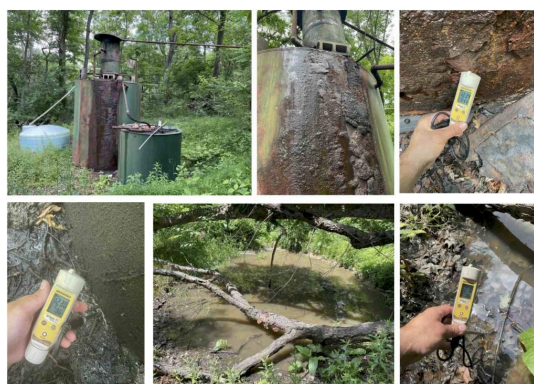
-- TribLive: [Penneco Repairs Road Near Oil & Gas Wastewater Injection Wells In Plum Boro After Damage From Truck Traffic In Allegheny County](#)

-- ProPublica: [President Plans To Protect Methane-Leaking Conventional /Stripper Oil & Gas Wells, Hilcorp Oil & Gas Company Owner To Benefit](#) [Hilcorp Operates In PA]

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- TribLive: [New Shale Gas Wells, Higher Natural Gas Prices Raise State's Drilling Impact Fee Distribution To \\$243.8 Million](#)
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 - Utility Dive: [US EIA: Natural Gas Generation Down 60% From 2024 On Same Capacity In California As Cheaper Solar, Power Imports Surge](#)
- [Posted: June 19, 2026]

DEP Finds No Action Taken To Cleanup Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Oil Well At A Site In Washington County For 936 Days



On June 11, 2026, the Department of Environmental Protection did a follow-up inspection of the McCown 1 conventional oil well in Cecil Township, Washington County owned by the CC Wharton Estate and found no action had been taken since the last inspection to clean up contaminated groundwater from the well released on the site.

The last inspection of the site was on May 13, 2025. The original violations for the spills [were issued on Nov. 17, 2023](#) in response to a citizen complaint and re-issued on May 13, 2025.

“The corroded tank in the woods behind the pump jack that appeared to be leaking an oil-based matter from the base was also observed again.”

“The production tanks appeared to be in the same condition as previously observed, with signs of corrosion apparent.”

“A soil conductivity reading was taken again at the base of the larger metal production tank and indicated a release with elevated reading of 12.34mS.

DEP said it "Appears a release of production fluids [contaminated groundwater from the

well] has migrated into a nearby" pool of water."

"The Department requests the operator assess the entire well site for leaks and spills."

"The Department has not been able to contact the operator and has not received any response from the previous inspections."

The May 2025 violations were continued from the Nov. 17, 2023 violations..

DEP requested a response by June 30. [DEP inspection report](#) + many photos.

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

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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-- Corroded contaminated groundwater storage tanks, Corrosion close-up, Measuring contamination from tank release; Row 2-- Measuring contamination in release from another tank in the woods, Pool of contaminated water next to tanks, Measuring contamination in water.)

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[Posted: June 20, 2026]

PA Oil & Gas Weekly Compliance Dashboard - June 13 to 19 - 4 Contaminated Groundwater Releases From Conventional Wells; Abandoned Conventional Well Violations Hit 300



From June 13 to 19, [DEP's Oil and Gas Compliance Database](#) shows oil and gas inspectors filed 591 inspection entries, plus previous inspection reports just posted..

Follow these links to spreadsheets showing the violations and inspections occurring between June 13 to 19 --

[Click Here for violations issued.](#) [Click Here for inspection entries.](#)

[Note: There were many more violations issued by DEP than PA Environment Digest can highlight here.]

Enforcement Actions Taken Last Week

So far this year, [DEP took these actions as of June 12--](#)

- **NOVs Issued In Last Week:** 151 conventional, 3 unconventional
- **Year To Date - NOVs Issued:** 2,660 conventional and 536 unconventional
- **Enforcements 2025:** 232 conventional and 94 unconventional (orders, agreements)
- **Inspections Last Week:** 329 conventional and 333 unconventional
- **Year To Date - Inspections:** 9,423 conventional and 12,219 unconventional

Contaminated Groundwater Releases Found At Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Well Site In Warren County

On June 15, 2026, a routine inspection of the Trinity Mineral Partners LLC Conklin Lease C1 conventional oil and gas well site in Brokenstraw Township, Warren County found evidence of a significant release of contaminated groundwater around aboveground and buried storage tanks. [Read more here.](#)

Large Contaminated Groundwater Releases Found At 2nd & 3rd Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Well Sites In Warren County

On June 8, 2026, the Department of Environmental Protection did routine inspections of two conventional oil and gas wells owned by Trinity Mineral Partners, LLC and found large contaminated groundwater releases from the wells had killed vegetation, soaked into soil and polluted road ditches at both sites in Sugar Grove Township, Warren County. [Read more here.](#)

Failed To Clean Up Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Well For 936

Days

On June 11, 2026, the Department of Environmental Protection did a follow-up inspection of the McCown 1 conventional oil well in **Cecil Township, Washington County** owned by the **CC Wharton Estate** and found no action had been taken since the last inspection to clean up contaminated groundwater from the well released on the site.

The last inspection of the site was on May 13, 2025. The original violations for the spills [were issued on Nov. 17, 2023](#) in response to a citizen complaint and re-issued on May 13, 2025. [Read more here.](#)

27 Abandoned Conventional Well Violations

Crawford County - Penta Oil Corp

May 27, 2026 follow-up inspections of the [Robert Hitchcock 1](#) and [R. Hartenbach 1](#) conventional wells in **Cussewago Township** found the wells were still abandoned and not plugged, and owner failed to submit annual production, waste generation and well integrity reports. Original violations issued on March 25, 2021. Violations continued. DEP inspection reports sent to owner.

Fayette County - William Sadowski [766 Days]

June 12, 2026 follow-up inspection of the Lot 140 6 conventional well in **Washington Township** found the well continued to be abandoned, not plugged, the owner failed to submit annual production, waste generation, well integrity reports and the well was leaking gas. Original violations issued May 7, 2024. Violations continued. Response requested by July 2. [DEP inspection report.](#)

Venango County - Daniel L. Heath

June 15, 2026 routine inspection of the 11 conventional wells-- [Farren 3](#), [Farren 8](#), [Farren 9](#), [Farren 10](#), [Farren 11](#), [Kenneth Green 1A](#), [O'Neil 1](#), [O'Neil 4](#), [O'Neil 6](#), [O'Neil 7](#), [O'Neil 12](#)-- in **Cranberry Township** found the wells abandoned, not plugged and the owner failed to submit annual production, waste generation and well integrity reports. These wells were never inspected before. DEP noted the owner was "recently deceased." Violations issued. DEP issued abandonment violations for [6 other Heath wells](#) last week.

Warren County - Delta Inland Oil Res LLC

June 9 & 15, 2026 inspections of 6 conventional wells-- [A. Mortenson 7](#), [A. Mortenson 8](#), [A. Mortenson 9](#), [A. Mortenson 11](#), [William & Sarah Wigren 2](#)-- in **Sugar Grove Township** found them all abandoned and not plugged. Written violations issued. DEP [issued Delta total of 27 violations](#) since May for abandoning wells. Response requested by July 1.

Washington County - EQT Production Co.

June 11, 2026 inspection of the [LB Huffman 989](#) (**West Bethlehem Twp.**) and [J.A. Hufford 1014](#) (**Amwell Twp.**) found them abandoned and not plugged. Violations issued. Response requested by July 3.

72 - Abandoned Well Inspections

DEP inspected 72 abandoned conventional wells in Allegheny, Butler, Clarion, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango, Warren, Washington and Westmoreland counties to monitor ongoing plugging operations and evaluate the wells for future plugging.

5 - Unknown Owner Inspections

DEP inspected 5 conventional oil and gas wells with Unknown Owners in Allegheny, Warren, Washington and Westmoreland counties and found them abandoned and not plugged.

300 Violations For Conventional Abandoned Well Violations In 2026

So far in 2026, DEP issued or continued 300 notices of violation for conventional oil and gas well abandonment.

Conventional Well Spills/Releases

Washington County - CC Wharton Estate [936 Days]

June 11, 2026 follow-up inspection of the McCown 1 conventional well in **Cecil Township** and found no steps taken to remediate release of contaminated groundwater from the well, repair or replace corroded storage tanks. “It appears a release of [contaminated groundwater from the well] has migrated into a nearby pond [pool of water]” Original violations [issued on Nov. 17, 2023](#) in response to a citizen complaint, re-issued on May 13, 2025 and continued with this inspection. DEP said no response has been received from the owner during this entire time. Response requested by June 30. [DEP inspection report](#) + many photos.

Shale Gas Spill/Release

Bradford County - Repsol Oil & Gas USA LLC

June 16, 2026 inspection of the Bense shale gas well pad in **Troy Township** in response to a notification of a spill of an unknown quantity of drilling mud on June 15 while drilling a well. The mud escaped the 61H well, spilled out of containment and into a nearby well cellar. About 420 gallons of the water-based mud have been recovered so far. The owner plans to excavate the drilling mud impacted pad material after drilling is complete in late August. Response requested by July 2. [DEP inspection report](#).

2026 Act 2 Oil & Gas Facility Pollution Cleanups

So far in 2026, DEP received or acted on 100 Act 2 Land Recycling notices related to oil and gas facility site cleanups. [Read more here.](#)

Shale Gas Cement/Casing Failures

Susquehanna County - Expand Operating LLC

June 17, 2026 inspection of the Cannella 6H shale gas well in **Auburn Township** as part of routine monitoring of cement/casing failures found the continued presence of gas in the well

annulus. Original violation issued on August 14, 2025. Violation continued. [DEP inspection report](#).

Failure To Submit Monthly Production/Waste Reports

On June 17, 2026, DEP issued violations to these shale gas drillers for failing to submit monthly production, waste reports [not available online]--

- Apollo Resources LLC - [Holds 1,890 permits](#)
- Frontier Natural Resources - [Holds 7 permits](#)
- Monona LLC - [Holds 3 permits](#)
- MTN Energy - [Holds 44 permits](#)

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.

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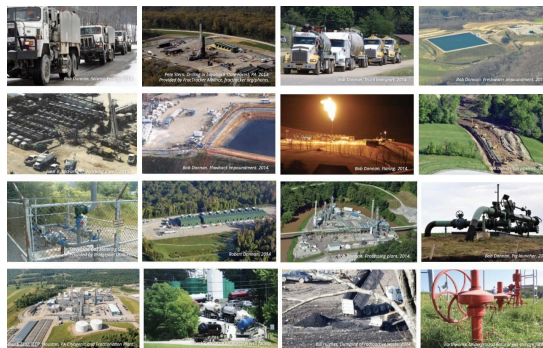
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PA Oil & Gas Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - June 20

The following notices were published in the [June 20 PA Bulletin](#) related to oil and gas industry facilities. Many of the notices offer the opportunity for public comments.

-- **DEP published** notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin announcement an amendment to the **ETC Northeast Pipeline, LLC's Revolution Cryogenic Natural Gas Processing Plant in Smith Twp., Washington County** to update language regarding flare monitoring to align with a Consent Order entered into on July 24, 2025. ([PA Bulletin, page 3685](#))



Land Recycling/Brownfield Cleanups

-- **Expand Operating LLC - Oilcan Shale Gas Well Pad:** DEP received a Final Report on remediation of soil contaminated with production wastewater to meet the Statewide Health Standards at the pad located in **Overton Twp., Bradford County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3681](#))

-- **Expand Operating LLC - Kerrick Shale Gas Well Pad:** DEP approved a Final Report on remediation of soil contaminated with production wastewater to meet the Statewide Health Standards at the pad located in **Asylum Twp., Bradford County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3682](#))

-- **Coterra Energy, Inc. - P. Guiton Shale Gas Well Pad:** DEP approved a Final Report on remediation of soil contaminated with production wastewater to meet the Statewide Health Standards at the pad located in **Middletown Twp., Susquehanna County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3682](#))

2026 Act 2 Oil & Gas Facility Pollution Cleanups

So far in 2026, DEP received or acted on 100 Act 2 Land Recycling notices related to oil and gas facility site cleanups.

Air Quality Permits - Comments

-- **KC Midstream Solutions LLC - Pipeline Compressor Station:** DEP invites comments on the renewal of an Air Quality Operating Permit for a facility located in **Lafayette Twp., McKean County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3663](#))

-- **Diversified Products, LLC - Johnsonburg Compressor Station:** DEP invites comments on a renewal of an Air Quality Operating Permit for a compressor Station located in **Mahoning Twp., Indiana County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3663](#))

-- **Diversified Products, LLC - Stuby Compressor Station:** DEP invites comments on a renewal of a State Only Air Quality Permit for a compressor station located in **Mahoning Twp., Indiana County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3663](#))

Air Quality Permits - Issued

-- **Expand Operating LLC - Stone BRA Shale Gas Well Pad:** DEP renewed a GP-5A General Air Quality Permit for continued operation of multiple sources of air pollution at the pad located in **Tuscarora Twp., Bradford County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3683](#))

-- **JMG Energy, LLC - Deer Creek Compressor Station:** DEP renewed a GP-5 General Air Quality Permit for continued operation of multiple sources of air pollution at the facility located in **Deer Creek Twp., Mercer County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3683](#))

-- **Perennial CMM PA, LLC - Coal Mine Methane Flare:** DEP issued a GP-21 Air Quality General Permit for a flare at the Gob Vent Borehole, Cumberland Mine in **Wayne Twp, Greene County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3683](#))

-- **Perennial CMM PA, LLC - Coal Mine Methane Flare:** DEP issued a GP-21 Air Quality General Permit for a flare at the 2nd Gob Vent Borehole, Cumberland Mine in **Wayne Twp, Greene County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3683](#))

-- **Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co., LLC - Ellisburg Booster Station:** DEP renewed a State Only Air Quality Permit for the facility located in **Genesee Twp., Potter County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3684](#))

-- **Columbia Gas Transmission - Milford Twp. Compressor Station:** DEP renewed a State Only Air Quality Permit for the facility located in **Milford Twp., Pike County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3684](#))

-- **Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC - Artemas Compressor Station:** DEP amended a Title V Air Quality Permit to incorporate a related Air Quality Plan Approval for the facility located in **Mann Twp., Bedford County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3684](#))

Individual Stormwater Permits - Comments

-- **Peoples Natural Gas Co., LLC - Replacing 7,400 Of 2 Natural Gas Pipelines:** DEP invites comments on an Individual Stormwater Permit for a project impacting Mill Creek and Coalpit Run (High Quality) located in **Ligonier Twp., Westmoreland County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3657](#))

Erosion & Sedimentation Permits - Issued

-- **Expand Operating LLC - Pipeline Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting Towanda Creek located in **Leroy and Canton Townships, Bradford County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3690](#))

-- **Seneca Resources Co LLC - Unknown Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting Thornbottom Creek and Cummings Creek located in **Farmington Twp., Tioga County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3690](#))

-- **Peoples Natural Gas Company, LLC - Unknown Project:** DEP issued a Chapter 102 permit for a project impacting South Fork Pine Creek located in **Valley Twp., Armstrong County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3690](#))

Oil & Gas Well Drilling Permits [6.12.26]*

-- **Last Week - Permits:** DEP issued ZERO conventional and 2 unconventional

-- **Year To Date** - Permits: DEP issued 63 conventional and 248 unconventional

-- **Last Week** - Wells Drilled: 4 conventional, 5 unconventional

-- **Year To Date** - Wells Drilled: 38 conventional and 179 unconventional

*[Weekly Workload Report - 6.12.26](#)

*[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 June 6 to 12 by county](#)--

Butler County

-- Allegheny Twp.: **Lola Energy Petroco LLC** - 1 Shale Gas Permit

-- Jackson Twp.: **Pennenergy Resources LLC** - 1 Shale Gas Permit

*[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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PUC Announced Distribution Of \$243.8 Million In Act 13 Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fees For PA Communities, State Environmental, Other Programs

On June 15, the [Public Utility Commission](#) announced the distribution of \$243,877,400 in [shale gas impact fees](#) collected from producers for the 2025 reporting year that benefits counties, municipalities, and state programs under Act 13 of 2012, which established the unconventional [shale] gas well fee.

"Pennsylvania's natural gas industry continues to play an important role in supporting our economy, strengthening our energy future, and providing tangible benefits to communities across the Commonwealth," **said PUC Chairman Steve DeFrank.** "The impact fee ensures that local governments and statewide programs share directly in those benefits, delivering funding for infrastructure, environmental improvements, public safety, and other priorities that improve quality of life for Pennsylvanians."

This year's distribution brings the cumulative total of impact fees collected and distributed since 2012 to more than \$3.12 billion.

Breakdown of Distribution

- **\$133.8 million to counties and municipalities** directly affected by drilling activity.
- **\$89.2 million to the Marcellus Legacy Fund**, which supports statewide environmental initiatives, greenways, and infrastructure projects.
- **\$20.9 million to state agencies**, as directed by Act 13.

The PUC has submitted this year's distribution data to the Pennsylvania Treasury, which is expected to begin issuing payments in early July.

Nearly 32% of the county and municipal funds distributed go to two state Senate districts-- Sen. Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming)-- [\\$39.1 million](#) and Sen. Camera Bartolotta (R-Washington) [nearly \\$38 million](#), heavy shale gas drilling areas.

Factors Affecting Distribution Amount

The 2025 distribution is approximately \$79 million higher than last year's total, due primarily to--

- An increase in new wells spud in 2025 (444), compared to 309 in 2024.
- A higher average natural gas price in 2025 (\$3.43 per MMBtu), an increase over the 2024 average of \$2.27.

Because new wells ("Year One" wells) are subject to the highest impact fee, fluctuations in their number can significantly affect annual collections.

Detailed Distribution Data

Extensive information about this year's impact fees – including county- and municipality-level distributions, producer payments, and historical data – is available on the [PUC's Act 13 website](#).

Users can search individual distributions to counties and municipalities; review how funds were used based on local government reporting; and download data by year or region.

The PUC administers the collection and distribution of impact fees on unconventional gas wells, as established by Act 13 of 2012, to ensure that communities across Pennsylvania receive support for infrastructure and environmental improvements linked to natural gas development.

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

[Note: This fee is only paid by shale gas well owners with a total of 13,759 active well permits. Conventional oil and gas well owners with 85,721 active well permits pay nothing.]

[Note: The increase in revenue for 2025 is welcome, because revenue had also been down in 2024 to \$164.6 million and \$179.6 million in 2023, and far below the record \$278.9 million in 2022. [Read more here.](#)

[The inconsistent revenue from the Act 13 fees makes holes in county and municipal budgets when years are lean.]

PA Oil & Gas Industry, Public Notice Dashboards:

-- PA Oil & Gas Weekly [Compliance Dashboard - June 13 to 19 - 4 Contaminated Groundwater Releases From Conventional Wells; Abandoned Conventional Well Violations Hit 300](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Large Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From 2 Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Sites In Sugar Grove Twp., Warren County; That's 3 Spill Sites This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Site In Brokenstraw Twp., Warren County, 3rd Site This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds No [Action Taken To Cleanup Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Oil Well At A Site In Washington County For 936 Days](#) [PaEN]

-- PA Oil & Gas [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - June 20](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Posted [51 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In June 20 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]

-- Reminder: [June 23 In-Person DEP Hearing On Stormwater Permit For Mora Solar LLC 390-Acre Solar Energy Facility In Kidder Twp., Carbon County](#)

-- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)

-- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)

Related Articles This Week:

-- PUC Announced [Distribution Of \\$243.8 Million In Act 13 Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fees For PA Communities, State Environmental, Other Programs](#) [PaEN]

-- In Case You Missed It: [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#) [PaEN]

-- Guest Essay: [For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table](#) - By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- Rolling Stone/DeSmog - Justin Nobel: [Her Son Died Of A Rare Bone Cancer, Could Unsecured Oil & Gas Equipment Waste Facility In Cecil Twp., Washington County Be To Blame?](#)

-- Inquirer: [Delta Monroe Energy Jet Fuel Refinery In Delaware County Shuts Down Due To Internal Leak](#)

-- TribLive: [Penneco Repairs Road Near Oil & Gas Wastewater Injection Wells In Plum Boro After Damage From Truck Traffic In Allegheny County](#)

- ProPublica: [President Plans To Protect Methane-Leaking Conventional /Stripper Oil & Gas Wells, Hilcorp Oil & Gas Company Owner To Benefit](#) [Hilcorp Operates In PA]
 - In Case You Were Wondering: Breathe Project Cams: [‘Emergency’ Flares Still Burning At MarkWest Harmon Creek, Energy Transfer Revolution Natural Gas Processing Plants In Washington County 6.17.26](#)
 - TribLive: [New Shale Gas Wells, Higher Natural Gas Prices Raise State’s Drilling Impact Fee Distribution To \\$243.8 Million](#)
 - TribLive Editorial: [Latest Examples Of Efforts To Narrow Public Discourse Should Be Opposed](#)
 - Natural Resources Defense Council Blog: [President Wants PJM To Give The Gas Industry A Multibillion Gift To Supply Power To A.I. Data Centers In Upcoming Power Auction](#) - By Tom Rutigliano
 - The Center Square: [PA’s Energy Future A Defining Issue In Gubernatorial Race](#)
 - The Guardian: [How The Fight Over US A.I. Data Centers Is Scrambling Pennsylvania’s Politics: ‘We Don’t Want It’](#)
 - PennLive: [As PA Data Center Development Surges, PA House Fast-Tracks Bills To Address It \[Not Senate\]](#)
 - The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)]
 - Institute For Energy Economics & Financial Analysis: [Pennsylvania’s Shrinking Fossil Fuel Footprint Leaves A Widening Fiscal Gap To Support Tax Credits For Fossil Fuel Industry](#)
 - Utility Dive: [Dept. Of Defense Intervenes In Clean Air Act Lawsuit Against Use Of Gas-Fired Power Turbines To Feed Colossus 2 Data Center In Mississippi Saying It Threatens National Security](#)
 - Utility Dive: [US EIA: Natural Gas Generation Down 60% From 2024 On Same Capacity In California As Cheaper Solar, Power Imports Surge](#)
- [Posted: June 15, 2026]

PA House Passes Legislation Authorizing Virtual Power Plants To Use Existing Energy Resources More Effectively, Address Grid Reliability, Rising Energy Bills; 16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate

On June 16, the House passed [House Bill 2264](#) (Davidson-D-Cumberland) to establish a framework for a virtual power plant to use existing energy resources more effectively, increase grid reliability and address rising energy bills.

The bill passed by a vote of 107 to 95--
Republicans voting no.

"This bill is about practical solutions, affordability and modernizing our infrastructure without placing a burden on ratepayers," **said Rep. Nathan Davidson.** "Pennsylvanians are looking for relief when paying their energy bills. By using technologies many families already



have in their homes, we can reduce the strain on our electric grid, prevent costly system upgrades and put money directly back into the pockets of consumers who choose to participate."

A virtual power plant connects everyday household technologies, such as smart thermostats, solar batteries and electric vehicles, into a coordinated network.

During peak energy demand, like the hottest days of summer, these distributed resources can dynamically scale back demand or feed power back into the grid.

This reduces the need to operate expensive, high-emission peaker plants, keeping energy prices affordable for all Pennsylvanians.

Under House Bill 2264, Pennsylvania's major electric distribution utilities will submit formal virtual power plant proposals to the Public Utility Commission by July 1, 2027.

Consumers who opt into the voluntary program will receive direct compensation for the energy services their connected devices provide.

Crucially, the legislation mandates enhanced incentives for low-income households and historically disadvantaged communities, ensuring the financial benefits of the modern energy economy are accessible to everyone, according to Rep. Davidson.

By creating a decentralized backup system, the legislation also mitigates the risk of localized power outages and stabilizes regional energy markets, all while using existing infrastructure.

"This bill is a common-sense, voluntary and market-driven way to reduce the financial burden for families and businesses," Rep. Davidson said. "It is a clear win for our grid infrastructure and all ratepayers."

"Thirty-seven states and the District of Columbia already have at least one virtual power plant program for customers to take advantage of. Customers who have opted in have saved hundreds of dollars on their energy bills. Those are the kinds of savings that would mean the world to hard-working families and seniors on fixed incomes who are struggling to pay their energy bills," said House Energy Committee Chairwoman Elizabeth Fiedler (D-Philadelphia).

The bill now goes to the Senate for action.

[Click Here for Rep. Davidson's announcement.](#)

16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate

The House has now passed 16 bills to promote the development of more electric generation, improve grid reliability and address energy affordability issues that are all now in the Senate--

-- **Authorize PUC To Regulate Data Centers:** [House Bill 1834](#) (Matzie-D-Beaver) authorized the Public Utility Commission to regulate A.I. data centers and other large loads by a vote of 104 to 95-- Republicans opposed. (Passed House in March, now in Senate.) [[Read more here](#)]

-- **Community Solar Energy:** [House Bill 504](#) (Schweyer-D-Lehigh) authorizing Community Energy Programs to expand solar energy access across Pennsylvania (part of Governor's [Lightning Energy Plan](#)) by a vote of 114 to 89- Republicans opposing. (Passed the House in May 2025, now in the Senate). [[Read more here.](#)]

-- **Encouraging Warehouse Solar:** [House Bill 1260](#) (Rusnock-D-Berks) encourages the development of solar energy generation facilities at warehouses and distribution centers by a vote of 101 to 98-- Republicans opposed. (Passed House in March, now in Senate.) [[Read more here.](#)]

-- **Geothermal Energy:** [House Bill 2076](#) (Venkat-D-Allegheny, Williams-R-Chester) to establish a framework for development of clean, safe geothermal energy to meet exploding base

load energy demands by a [vote of 118 to 83](#)-- 16 Republicans supporting. (Passed House in May, now in Senate.) [[Read more here](#)]

-- **Virtual Power Plants:** [House Bill 2264](#) (Davidson-D-Cumberland) to establish a framework for a virtual power plant to use existing energy resources more effectively, increase grid reliability and address rising energy bills by a vote of 107 to 95-- Republicans voting no. (House passed in June, now in the Senate.)

-- **Advanced Transmission Line Technology:** [House Bill 2223](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) requiring the consideration of advanced transmission line technology in transmission projects by a unanimous vote. (Passed House in May, now in Senate.) [[Read more here](#)]

-- **Electric Grid Capacity Maps:** [House Bill 2429](#) (Cerrato-D-Montgomery) requires electric utilities to make available maps showing the hosting capacity of transmission lines to allow for faster connection of generation by a vote of 110 to 92-- Republicans opposing. (Passed House in June, now in the Senate.)

-- **Retooling PA Energy Financing Authority:** [House Bill 2347](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) making changes to the authority of the PA Energy Financing Authority to take advantage of available federal funding by a [vote of 106 to 95](#)-- 4 Republicans supporting. (Passed House in May, now in Senate.) [[Read more here](#)]

-- **Updating Act 129 Energy Efficiency Plans:** [House Bill 505](#) (Donahue-D-Lackawanna) updating Act 129 utility energy efficiency programs and adding natural gas utilities (part of Governor's [Lightning Energy Plan](#)) by a vote of 102 to 101-- Republicans opposing. (Passed House in December 2025, now in the Senate.)

-- **Tax Credit Changes To Develop Clean Energy Generation:** [House Bill 500](#) (Inglis-D-Allegheny) -- the Pennsylvania Economic Development for a Growing Economy (EDGE) Tax Credit to develop new clean, reliable and affordable electric generation facilities (part of Governor's [Lightning Energy Plan](#)) by a vote of 108 to 95-- Republicans opposing. (House passed in May 2025, now in the Senate.)

-- **Advanced Clean Manufacturing Tax Credit:** [House Bill 1556](#) (Fiedler-D-Philadelphia) authorizing a clean manufacturing tax credit by a vote of 104 to 93- Republicans opposed. (Passed House in February, now in Senate.) [[Read more here](#)]

-- **Model Data Center Zoning Ordinance:** [House Bill 2151](#) (Donahue-D-Lackawanna) directing DCED to develop a model zoning ordinance for voluntary use by local governments to regulate and mitigate the community impacts of A.I. data center developments by a vote of 124 to 77-- Some Democrats oppose, mostly Republicans. (House passed in April, now in the Senate.) [[Read more here](#).]

-- **Reporting Data Center Energy, Water Use:** [House Bill 2150](#) (Donahue-D-Lackawanna) by a vote of 133 to 68 requiring data centers in Pennsylvania to send information about their energy and water use to DEP and requires DEP to aggregate the information and create an annual report on data center impacts by a vote of 133 to 68-- Republicans voting no. (House passed in April, now in the Senate.) [[Read more here](#).]

-- **Reporting Data Center Water Use:** [House Bill 2246](#) (Webster-D-Montgomery) requiring data centers to report on and regulate water use, water quality and other information on water discharges to DEP by a vote of 116 to 84-- Republicans opposing. (Passed House in April, now in Senate.) [[Read more here](#)]

-- **Reducing Fees On Modular Nuclear Reactors:** [House Bill 2017](#) (Giral-D-Philadelphia) reducing fees on modular and micro nuclear reactors passed by unanimous vote. (House passed

in February, now in Senate.)

-- **Nuclear Power Plant Fees:** [House Bill 2450](#) (Mehaffie-R-Dauphin) increases fees on nuclear power plants to support oversight by DEP by a vote of 199 to 3- Republicans voted no. (Passed the House in June, now in the Senate.)

Resource Link:

-- PA House 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]

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-- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#) [PaEN]

-- PA House [Passes Legislation Authorizing Virtual Power Plants To Use Existing Energy Resources More Effectively, Address Grid Reliability, Rising Energy Bills; 16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate](#) [PaEN]

-- House Committees [OK Bills To Add Energy Storage To Grid To Improve Reliability; Add Conditions For Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit; Speed Connection Of Clean Energy Generation To Grid To Help Reduce Energy Costs; Other Bills](#) [PaEN]

-- PJM Interconnection [Issues 4th Hot Weather Alert Of Season For June 18 In Mid-Atlantic, Southern Regions](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Citizens Advisory [Council Meets June 23 To Hear Presentation On Carbon Capture; Discuss Comments On DEP Act 54 Report On Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining; Air Quality Regulations](#) [PaEN]

-- First United [Presbyterian Church Of Crafton Heights In Pittsburgh Cut Energy Bills By More Than 2/3, Now Invests More In People, The Community](#) [PaEN]

-- PennDOT [Now Accepting Applications For National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grants In Western And Southeast PA; June 25 Webinar For Western Applicants](#) [PaEN]

-- Allegheny County [To Host June 24 Virtual Meeting Inviting Public Input On The County's First-Ever Climate Action Plan](#) [PaEN]

-- PennEnvironment [Offers A.I. Data Center Resources: True Costs Of Data Centers To The Environment, Consumers; Impacts Of Dirty Backup Generators; Slowing Transition To Clean Energy](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- PennLive: [As PA Data Center Development Surges, PA House Fast-Tracks Bills To Address It](#) [Not Senate]

-- ICYMI: [Legislation To Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Voted Out Of House Finance Committee](#)

-- Legislation To [Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Introduced In PA House](#) [[House Bill 2650](#)]

-- PA Capital-Star/The Conversation: [How PA Towns Are Protecting Themselves From The Noise, Heat And Utility Costs Of A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Eos Energy Energy Storage Company Starts Production At 2nd Facility In Pittsburgh Area](#)

-- The Center Square: [PA's Energy Future A Defining Issue In Gubernatorial Race](#)

-- The Guardian: [How The Fight Over US A.I. Data Centers Is Scrambling Pennsylvania's Politics: 'We Don't Want It'](#)

-- Centre Daily Times Column: [Climate Watch - Energy Concerns Now Focus For State Lawmakers](#)

-- The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)] [Warning]

-- TribLive: [Assistance Available As Electric Bill Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation Rate](#)

-- AP: [President's Administrations Buys Back 4 Invenergy Wind Energy Projects For \\$765 Million, Will Invest In Natural Gas, Geothermal Ventures Instead](#)

-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

[Posted: June 16, 2026]

House Committees OK Bills To Add Energy Storage To Grid To Improve Reliability; Add Conditions For Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit; Speed Connection Of Clean Energy Generation To Grid To Help Reduce Energy Costs; Other Bills

On June 17, the [House Energy Committee](#) approved and reported out bills to add energy storage to the grid to improve reliability, add conditions for receiving the existing state data center tax credit and speed connections of clean energy generation to the grid to help address rising energy costs.

The bills include--

-- Procuring Grid-Scale Energy Storage:

[House Bill 2380](#) (Rivera-D-Lancaster) requiring electric utilities to set targets and procure grid-stabilizing battery energy storage was amended to increase storage requirement and make other changes and reported out by a vote of 14 to 12-- Republicans opposed;

-- Deadlines To Connecting Clean Energy Sources: [House Bill 2595](#) (Inglis-D-Allegheny) amends the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act to establish deadline requirements for the interconnection safety reviews of small-scale clean energy projects was amended to slightly increase deadlines for completing reviews and was reported out unanimously, with Republicans saying they still have concerns.

-- Adding Conditions To Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit/Nondisclosure

Agreements: [House Bill 2359](#) (Ciresi-D-Montgomery) was amended with a gut and replace amendment changing the bill to a Tax Code bill adding conditions for qualifying for the existing data center tax credit--

-- Submitting a community protection plan setting public participation and transparency requirements;

-- Submitting a project footprint report on the size of the facility, electricity generated and used, water consumption; and

-- Certifying the project has not entered into any nondisclosure agreements with local or state officials about the project.



These conditions do not apply to any data centers not applying for the state tax credit or any data centers with an electric demand of less than 10 MW.

[Note: The conditions are similar to [Gov. Shapiro's GRID Standards](#).]

The amended bill was reported out by a vote of 23 to 3-- Republicans were 3 no votes.

Rep. Martin Causer (R-Cameron), Minority Chair of the Committee, said he still had concerns about this bill, but voted to report it out of Committee to move the process along.

The bills were then referred to the House Rules Committee as all bills are this time of year.

Other Data Center Bills Moving

The House also moved these other bills related to data centers--

-- **Pause In Local Consideration Of Data Center Proposals:** [House Bill 2496](#) (Friel-D-Chester) amends the Municipalities Planning Code authorizing local governments to pause consideration of data center proposals for 180 days was amended and unanimously reported out of the House Local Government Committee and referred to House Rules Committee.

-- **Adopting Governor's GRID Standards As Conditions For Receiving State Tax Credit:** [House Bill 2650](#) (Webster-D-Montgomery) amending the Tax Code to add [Gov. Shapiro's GRID Standards](#) as conditions for receiving state data center tax credit was introduced June 16, reported out of the House Finance Committee June 17 and referred to House Rules Committee.

-- **Protecting Ratepayers From Excessive Utility Profits:** [House Bill 2224](#) (Burgos-D-Philadelphia) setting rates for electric, natural gas, water and wastewater utilities based on the demonstrated cost of capital to provide reasonable returns for utilities while protecting ratepayers from excessive profits ([sponsor summary](#)) was reported out of the House Rules Committee, amended and referred to the House Appropriations Committee.

Energy Storage Bill

[House Bill 2380](#) (Rivera-D-Lancaster) would require electric utilities to procure 3.5 GW of grid scale energy storage and does not allow the utility to actually own the storage.

The **prime sponsor Rep. Nikki Rivera (R-Lancaster)** introduced the bill saying-- "Pennsylvania needs to implement practical solutions that help to keep the lights on and the electric bills affordable. Battery storage is one of those solutions.

"This bill sets clear energy storage targets that will help to save electricity when it's plentiful and use it when its demand is the highest.

"That means a more reliable grid, fewer power shortages during peak periods, and greater resilience when the system is under stress.

"Battery storage can also help lower costs by reducing congestion on the grid, limiting the need for expensive infrastructure upgrades, especially when we're not using 100% of what we currently have, and cutting reliance on the costly peak power purchases.

"This bill includes competitive procurement requirements and strong oversight to ensure projects deliver value for rate payers.

"It's a smart investment in a stronger, more reliable, and more affordable energy future for Pennsylvania and for our families and businesses."

Rep. Martin Causer (R-Cameron), Minority Chair of the Committee, said-- "This [bill] would be a very large new mandate for the electric distribution companies procuring 3,000 megawatts of storage capacity.

"The requirement that's in the bill is equal to roughly four times the capacity of Three Mile Island, the Crane Clean Energy Center [835 MW].

“I think this is a huge mandate, a very costly mandate, and I will ask for a negative vote on the amendment and the bill.”

[Note: The cost of not having a reliable grid is blackouts and grid collapse that threaten lives and businesses. The 2021 electric grid collapse caused by a winter storm in Texas [cost at least \\$80 billion](#).]

Rep. Craig Williams (R-Chester) said-- “Now, are already getting unbelievable bills from our utilities, not because our utilities are charging us necessarily more, but because there's not enough electricity on the grid as it is.

“And all of these costs would be socialized on our ratepayers, every nickel of it.”

“That's number one problem in addition to the physical impossibility that four nuclear power plants worth of batteries does not exist yet.”

[Note: Eos Energy, a Pittsburgh-based company, is building grid-scale energy storage now and just opened a second manufacturing plant in Western PA. [Read more here](#).]

“We need to be encouraging gigawatts, gigawatts worth of new generation predominantly in Western Pennsylvania taking advantage of Marcellus shale [gas] and we are the number one electricity exporter in the country and we could double down on that right now and overnight immediately reduce our ratepayers' bills and instead we're doing this.”

[Note: Natural gas prices fluctuate wildly in response to world and market events and Pennsylvania is locked into those prices. We generate 60% of our electricity with natural gas now. We need diversity of supply, not more cost spikes.]

Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler (D-Philadelphia), Majority Chair of the Committee, said-- “I do want to emphasize that this legislation is an important step to increasing reliability for people across Pennsylvania.

“And for anybody who has lost power, experienced a blackout, a brownout, or been afraid that that might happen, a real reality for a lot of people in Pennsylvania, this bill is directly related, directly targeted to eliminating those situations.

“And so we talk a lot about generating new energy. I do disagree with the idea that the only thing we can do is try to get more generation online.

“That is one of the things, a very, very important thing. And I think we have some other bills coming up today that I hope will help to accomplish that.

“But I think in addition to getting more generation online in Pennsylvania, an absolutely important and critical issue, we need to do everything we can to increase reliability.”

Conditions On Data Center Tax Credit

[House Bill 2359](#) (Ciresi-D-Montgomery) had a gut and replace amendment added to put conditions on receiving the state data center tax credit.

Rep. Elizabeth Fiedler (D-Philadelphia), Majority Chair of the Committee, the sponsor of the amendment said-- “Pennsylvania currently does offer the sales and use tax exemption for data centers.

“And while many proponents talk about the fact that these facilities can bring investment and jobs to our Commonwealth, we know that as the chairman has described, there are also many concerns and this is very fast moving development in many cases.

“When a company receives a significant public tax benefit such as this, we believe that transparency and community engagement are even more critical than usual.

“And so I thank the [Rep. Ciresi] for bringing this legislation to us.

“This also ensures that government agencies cannot be bound by secrecy agreements that

keep the public in the dark.

“I think that piece is important so that as you heard, folks can know what is being built in their backyard.”

Rep. Eric Nelson (R-Westmoreland) said-- “I respectfully oppose this amendment and think it is an extremely dangerous practice.

“In a sense, we are creating a bait and switch. This legislature passed a sales tax exemption for data centers and we know these data centers are coming.

“Whether they come in Pennsylvania or they come in Maryland and Virginia, they are coming.

“And the more that we sable rattle against them, our workers are going to lose the opportunity to build these facilities.

“In the West, we are repurposing thousands of blighted acres of abandoned facilities, restoring taxes for our schools, building and extending water lines, repurposing acid mine drainage to be able to use for cooling systems.

“These data centers are doing in our communities things that we were never able to achieve at all.

“And now we want to tug at the rug underneath them and tell them if you don't comply with these additional requirements that aren't placed upon them from other states, we are going to cost you millions of dollars.”

Rep. Craig Williams (R-Chester) said-- “So they're building facilities that require seven to eight or more nuclear power plants. That's how big they are. That's how much money they're spending.

“So we're putting a bunch of requirements on data centers and a tax bill as a prerequisite for them getting a tax break, which I believe they'll say, "Take your tax break. We're good. We're just not going to comply with any of your requirements.”

“[For] small data centers, this will be appreciable. Hyperscale data centers will pay no attention to this, which is why we have some in that industry not even commenting on the bill because they know they're just not going to pay attention to it because they're going to move on with their plans and not take advantage of the tax break.”

On the issue of nondisclosure agreements, Rep. Joe Ciresi (D-Montgomery) said-- “So this situation came up because it was brought to our attention that within our district where I am, they were under an NDA [nondisclosure agreement] that they could not give all the information out to the local board of supervisors.

“And one of my board of supervisors came to us and said, "Well, we can't hear everything that we need to hear. How do we really do the right thing by our community? How do we come out and tell our community what's happening if the five of us sitting here can't hear all the information?”

“Every one of us who live in a community should have a right to know who's building next to us.

“Now, I'm going to also say to your comment that it doesn't mean we stop what's happening, but you have a right to know what is happening.

“That's what local government is supposed to give us, the right to know what's happening, who's developing. So we have a say.”

Rep. Joshua Kail (R-Beaver) said-- “The Shell Petrochemical Facility was built in my district and there was a lot of early on NDAs and things.

“And it's not so much about keeping information away from the public. It's not that at all, actually.

“It's about keeping information away from competitors. It's about concern about stocks and insider trading and things of that nature.

“They want to evaluate a situation and get all of the pieces and data points on the table first before they make a final decision.

“And this not having those types of NDAs in place could potentially really scuttle it.

“I understand the concern from a community concern.

“We represent our local township supervisors to make decisions on our behalf. Those local township supervisors are getting this information and they hopefully have the discretion to make wise decisions on our behalf.”

[Click Here to watch a video of the meeting.](#)

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.

(Photo: Pittsburgh-based [Eos Energy builds](#) utility-scale energy storage.)

Resource Links - Storage:

-- 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]

-- DEP Issues [Request For Information On Proposed Electric Generation Or Storage Projects Eligible For State Sponsorship Under PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#) [PaEN]

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[First-Ever Climate Action Plan](#) [PaEN]

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-- Legislation To [Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Introduced In PA House](#) [[House Bill 2650](#)]

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-- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Eos Energy Energy Storage Company Starts Production At 2nd Facility In Pittsburgh Area](#)

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-- Centre Daily Times Column: [Climate Watch - Energy Concerns Now Focus For State Lawmakers](#)

-- The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)] [Warning]

-- TribLive: [Assistance Available As Electric Bill Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation Rate](#)

-- AP: [President's Administration Buys Back 4 Invenergy Wind Energy Projects For \\$765 Million, Will Invest In Natural Gas, Geothermal Ventures Instead](#)

-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

[Posted: June 17, 2026]

PJM Interconnection Issues 4th Hot Weather Alert Of Season For June 18 In Mid-Atlantic, Southern Regions

On June 17, the [PJM Interconnection](#) regional electric grid operator issued a Hot Weather Alert for June 18 for its Mid-Atlantic and Southern regions ahead of expected 90-degree weather.

Pennsylvania utilities included in the Alert area are: Met-Ed, Penelec, PECO Energy and PPL Electric.

Previous Hot Weather Alerts were issued for May 18 to 20, June 5-6 and June 11-12.

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 reach and exceed 90 degrees, driving increased electricity demand.

Forecasted Peaks

As of 1 p.m. on June 17, PJM is expecting to serve a forecasted peak load of 129,750 MW on June 18.

This forecast is subject to change.

PJM's planning for this summer includes unlikely but plausible scenarios of up to 169,100 MW of demand. [Read more here](#).

PJM's all-time record summer peak load was recorded in 2006 at 165,563 MW.

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

The [PJM Interconnection](#) operates the electric grid in 13 states and the District of Columbia. The states include Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

Related Articles This Week:

-- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#) [PaEN]

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-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

[Posted: June 17, 2026]

PennEnvironment Offers A.I. Data Center Resources: True Costs Of Data Centers To The Environment, Consumers; Impacts Of Dirty Backup Generators; Slowing Transition To Clean Energy

Across Pennsylvania there is growing concern about the threats posed by the data center boom, and what it means for our planet, health and our pocketbooks.

To help make sure Pennsylvanians know about the environmental risks associated with data centers, the [PennEnvironment Research & Policy Center](#) has released a series of reports and studies to help inform the public.

Consumer & Environmental Risks

PennEnvironment's deep-dive study about the environmental and consumer risks posed by data centers-- [Big Data Centers, Big Problems](#)-- uncovers the surging environmental and consumer costs of A.I., crypto and big data, and how the rapid growth of data centers will deepen America's reliance on fossil fuels and put consumers and communities at risk.

Clean Energy Transition At Risk

The second study-- [Energy Transition at Risk](#)-- tracks a dramatic slowdown in the pace of coal plant retirements across the country due to data centers and energy needs.

In 2022, America was on track to eliminate dirty coal-fired power from the grid by 2040.

But new data shows that coal plant retirements have slowed, even amid a nationwide solar energy boom.

Fossil Fuel Plants Ordered To Stay Open

The third research paper-- [Fossil Fuel Power Plants Are Staying Online Longer](#)-- shows how much harmful air and toxic pollution these extended-life, dirty facilities emit.

Since the data center boom is keeping some old, dirty power plants that were set to retire online for years longer than planned, it's resulting in more air pollution that threatens our health.

Impacts Of Dirty Backup Generators



The fourth study-- [False Emergencies, Real Pollution](#)-- looks at the use of dirty diesel generators at data centers.

Data centers are often proposing to use backup generators powered by dirty diesel fuel.

The report looks at the potential massive amount of air pollution and environmental harm that may be created due to this expansive build out of diesel generators at data centers around the country.

Visit the [PennEnvironment](#) website for more information on data centers and other environmental and energy issues.

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-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

[Posted: June 19, 2026]

In Case You Missed It: A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22

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

-- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#)
[PaEN]

Energy Costs

-- TribLive: [Assistance Available As Electric Bill Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation Rate](#)

Generation

-- Inquirer: [Owner Of Three Mile Island Nuclear Data Center Power Plant Says Plant Is On Track To Restart Next Year](#)

-- Utility Dive: [Dept. Of Defense Intervenes In Clean Air Act Lawsuit Against Use Of Gas-Fired Power Turbines To Feed Colossus 2 Data Center In Mississippi Saying It Threatens National Security](#)

Grid

-- PJM Interconnection [Issues 4th Hot Weather Alert Of Season For June 18 In Mid-Atlantic, Southern Regions](#) [PaEN]

-- The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)]

-- Natural Resources Defense Council Blog: [President Wants PJM To Give The Gas Industry A Multibillion Gift To Supply Power To A.I. Data Centers In Upcoming Power Auction](#) - By Tom Rutigliano

-- Utility Dive: [Maryland Lawmakers Back A.I. Data Center Transmission Cost Complaint At FERC Saying PJM Makes Ratepayers Pay For Data Center Projects That Don't Benefit Them](#)

-- AP: [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Backs President's Plan To Speed Power To Energy-Hungry A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- FERC Release: [FERC Orders Regional Grid Operators To Justify Or Reform Tariffs For Data Centers To Speed Large Load Integration](#)

Legislation

-- PA House [Passes Legislation Authorizing Virtual Power Plants To Use Existing Energy](#)

[Resources More Effectively, Address Grid Reliability, Rising Energy Bills; 16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate](#) [PaEN]

-- House Committee [OKs Bills To Add Energy Storage To Grid To Improve Reliability; Add Conditions For Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit; Speed Connection Of Clean Energy Generation To Grid To Help Reduce Energy Costs](#) [PaEN]

-- PennLive: [As PA Data Center Development Surges, PA House Fast-Tracks Bills To Address It](#) [Not Senate]

-- PA Capital-Star: [PA House Bill Would Tie Data Center Tax Break To Transparency, Sustainability](#)

-- The Center Square: [PA House Lawmakers Advance Bill To Curb Nondisclosure Agreements On A.I. Data Centers](#) [But Only For Those Seeking State Tax Credit]

-- Centre Daily Times Column: [Climate Watch - Energy Concerns Now Focus For State Lawmakers](#)

-- The Guardian: [How The Fight Over US A.I. Data Centers Is Scrambling Pennsylvania's Politics: 'We Don't Want It'](#)

Land Use

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [\\$1.2 Billion, 4,000 Acre Land Deal Announced With 194 Landowners For 2nd A.I. Data Center Project With 39 Buildings, 4 GW Power Plant Demand In Salem Twp., Luzerne County By 4-3 Group](#)

-- The Citizens' Voice: [3rd A.I. Data Center Proposal In Salem Twp. Could Generate \\$1.2 Billion For Landowners In Luzerne County](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Lackawanna County Eyes A.I. Data Center Health Impact Study, Emergency Response Assessment](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developers Conclude Testimony, Turn Floor Over To Residents In Archbald; Valley View School District Approved As Intervenor In Proceeding](#) [PDF of Article]

-- WVIA: [Another Night Of Questions As A.I. Data Center Developer Rests Its Case In Archbald Zoning Hearing](#)

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: ['Wildly Unpopular, Obscenely Invasive' Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developers Rests Its Comically Unconvincing Case In Archbald Hearing](#) [PDF of Article]

-- Scranton Times: [Archbald Residents Concerned About Noise Impacts Of 7-Building, 271 Acre Green Mountain Data Center Proposal With 196 Diesel Generators For Backup Power](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Olyphant Residents Who Oppose A.I. Data Centers Raising Money To Hire Attorney; Archbald Group Laid Groundwork For Resistance, Now Other Communities Are Fighting Back](#)

-- The Citizens' Voice: [Dallas Twp. Delay On A.I. Data Center Ordinance Prompts Public Alarm In Luzerne County](#)

-- LehighValleyLive: [Massive Lehigh Valley Warehouse Set To Convert To A.I. Data Center In Allen Twp., Northampton County](#)

-- Morning Call: [Faced With Massive A.I. Data Center Proposal, Lower Mount Bethel Twp. Is Latest To Consider Ordinance](#)

-- Morning Call: [Allentown Approves A.I. Data Center Ordinance Criticized By Some As Too Lenient](#)

-- Republican Herald: [Amazon Web Services Outlines Plans For 380 Acre A.I. Data Center In](#)

Kline Twp., Schuylkill County

- Williamsport Sun: [Former Muncy Twp. Zoning Officer Said Data Center Proposal Was Being Pushed Thru As A Warehouse And It Should Be Denied, Resubmitted As A Conditional Use](#)
- Williamsport Sun: [Lycoming County Declares A.I. Data Center Ordinance Invalid, Gaining Time To Seek Amendments](#)
- TheDerrick.com: [Venango County Residents Pack Meeting To Voice Concerns Over Proposed A.I. Data Center Proposal In Scrubgrass Twp. At Scrubgrass Power Plant](#) [PDF of Article]
- PennLive: [Dauphin County Golf Course In Swatara Twp. Sold To Texas Company For \\$45.6 Million For A.I. Data Center](#)
- York Daily Record: [Manchester Twp. Passes Ordinance To Restrict A.I. Data Centers](#)

Impacts

- PA Capital-Star/The Conversation: [How PA Towns Are Protecting Themselves From The Noise, Heat And Utility Costs Of A.I. Data Centers](#)
- PennEnvironment [Offers A.I. Data Center Resources: True Costs Of Data Centers To The Environment, Consumers; Impacts Of Dirty Backup Generators; Slowing Transition To Clean Energy](#) [PaEN]

Public Participation/Meetings

- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)
- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)
- Guest Essay: [For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table](#) - By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#) [PaEN]
- [PA Data Center Hearings & Meetings](#) - Physicians For Social Responsibility PA
[Posted: June 21, 2026]

DEP Citizens Advisory Council Meets June 23 To Hear Presentation On Carbon Capture; Discuss Comments On DEP Act 54 Report On Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining; Air Quality Regulations

The [DEP Citizens Advisory Council](#) meets June 23 to hear a presentation on carbon capture by the Kleinman Center for Energy Policy, discuss comments on DEP's Act 54 report on damage caused by underground coal mining and several air quality regulations.

The agenda includes--

- **Proposed Chapter 121 & 127 Changes** related to General Air Quality Provisions and Permit Notification requirements. [DEP presentation.](#)
- **Rescinding the PA Heavy-Duty Diesel Program.** [DEP presentation.](#)
- Dr. Hélène Pilorgé, [Clean Energy Conversions Laboratory](#), [Kleinman Center for Energy Policy](#), University of Pennsylvania, will give the presentation on carbon capture, utilization and sequestration.
- **Discussion of comments on DEP Act 54 Report on Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining** - [CAC invitation for public comments & Key Findings From DEP's Report](#)

Public Comments

Individuals interested in providing public comment during the meeting must sign up 24-hours in advance of the meeting by contacting Ian Irvin, CAC Executive Director, by email to: iirvin@pa.gov.

One [comment posted by Monica Schryver](#), East Vincent Township, Chester County resident on data center ordinance guidelines.

Joining The Meeting

The meeting will be held in Room 105 of the Rachel Carson Building in Harrisburg starting at 12:30 p.m.

[Click Here to join via Microsoft Teams](#) or by telephone: +1 267-332-8737, Conference ID #: 541 794 634#

Visit the [DEP Citizens Advisory Council](#) webpage for available handouts and more information. Questions should be directed to Ian Irvin, CAC Executive Director, by email to: iirvin@pa.gov.

[Posted: June 21, 2026]

First United Presbyterian Church Of Crafton Heights In Pittsburgh Cut Energy Bills By More Than 2/3, Now Invests More In People, The Community



The [First United Presbyterian Church of Crafton Heights](#) in Pittsburgh is offering its “Cross Trainers” summer camp from June 22 through July 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., where one of the most popular camp perks is access to refreshingly cool air conditioning-- courtesy of CHUP’s rooftop solar array, paired with energy efficiency upgrades.

Installed on the day of the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, CHUP’s new solar array was put to its biggest test during the summer of 2025, when 94 neighborhood kids signed up for the Cross Trainers summer camp, held during Pittsburgh’s hottest time of the year.

Due in part to the promise of increased air conditioning, the camp expanded in 2025 to include middle schoolers.

“We’ve held our Cross Trainers camp for nearly 30 years now, and in the past we had to always be pretty selective and frugal with when, and to what degree, we used the air conditioning,” **said Pastor Dave Carver, leader of CHUP.**

“And even then, our energy bills were debilitating. But thanks to our new solar array, we’re only paying a small fraction of what we used to – and the kids are a lot happier. Many of them don’t have central air conditioning at home, so it’s great to be able to offer it to them when they come here.”

A [recently released case study](#) by Energy Efficiency Stories-- a project of the [Energy Efficiency Alliance](#)--reported that CHUP, which once paid about \$6,600 a year on electric bills, now pays less than \$2,000 a year thanks to its new solar system.

This frees up nearly \$5,000 a year to reinvest into the people and community that the church serves.

CHUP hasn’t stopped at going solar. The church has also invested in energy efficiency. In 2025, CHUP replaced their old boiler with a high-efficiency unit.

“Perhaps one day they'll replace me with a high-efficiency unit,” jokes Pastor Carver. Fifteen years before that, CHUP replaced a number of the church’s windows that had been leaking temperature-controlled air.

And this year, CHUP has plans to refurbish and replace some of their original stained glass windows, which are more than 100 years old, as a way to further preserve CHUP’s energy stores.

“As you look at the new reality for churches, particularly small inner city churches in North America, sustainability is going to be a huge factor,” **said Pastor Carver.** “So if we can spend less money on keeping our doors open, we can keep our doors open longer.”

Visit the CHUP [Solar Panel Initiative](#) webpage to watch a video about the project and for more information.

For more details on how CHUP is benefiting from solar and energy efficiency, check out [EEA’s case study on CHUP here](#).

The [Energy Efficiency Alliance](#) (EEA) is a nonprofit organization that advances energy efficiency in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

EEA engages and educates stakeholders and decision-makers to drive programs, policies, and funding that accelerate energy efficiency.

Our work grows the market for EE businesses, flexible solutions, and technologies that lower energy use in buildings, foster affordability, and reduce pressure on the grid.

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[Posted: June 16, 2026]

Allegheny County To Host June 24 Virtual Meeting Inviting Public Input On The County's First-Ever Climate Action Plan

The [Allegheny County Department of Sustainability](#) will [host a June 24 virtual meeting](#) inviting the public to provide input on the County's first Climate Action Plan from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The [Climate Action Plan](#) will be a regional vision to improve quality of life while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and ensuring that public dollars support efficient, sustainable county operations.

Attendees will receive the latest updates and have the opportunity to share their priorities for a greener and more resilient future.

The meeting will be delivered in English, Spanish, and ASL.

All attendees will be entered into a raffle for door prizes.

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

[Click Here for other in-person opportunities](#) to learn more about the Plan.

Visit Allegheny County's [Climate Action Plan](#) webpage to learn more.

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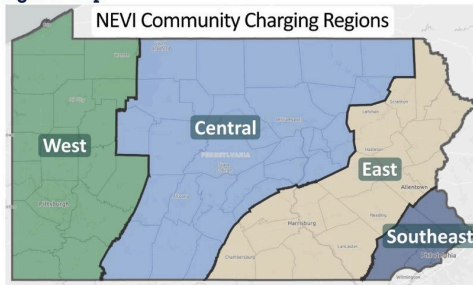
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[Posted: June 16, 2026]

PennDOT Now Accepting Applications For National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grants In Western And Southeast PA; June 25 Webinar For Western Applicants

Regions Map



PennDOT is now accepting applications for National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure [Community Charging Funding](#) in Southeast and Western PA regions. The deadline to submit proposals in the Southeast is August 21 and in Western area November 20. Applications permits are scheduled to open for the central and eastern regions in August or September. \$100 million in federal funding is available to invest in this round of funding for community-focused electric vehicle charging projects.

June 25 Webinar

PennDOT has scheduled a June 25 informational webinar at 1:00 p.m. for prospective applicants in the Western region to provide an overview of the program and to answer questions. [Click Here to register](#) and for more information on the webinar.

Visit PennDOT's [Community Charging Funding Rounds](#) webpage to learn more about this funding opportunity.

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-- The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)] [Warning]

-- TribLive: [Assistance Available As Electric Bill Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation Rate](#)

-- AP: [President's Administrations Buys Back 4 Invenergy Wind Energy Projects For \\$765 Million, Will Invest In Natural Gas, Geothermal Ventures Instead](#)

-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

[Posted: June 15, 2026]

Congressional Cuts To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?

The [Ohio River Valley Institute](#) recently [reported Congressional cuts](#) to the federal Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program signed into law by the President in January mean mining states will lose over \$500 million over the next 11 years of the program.

Pennsylvania, with the largest Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program, is set to lose the most by far-- \$169,476,758 or \$15,406,978 a year.

There are 5,670 miles of streams in Pennsylvania where the major cause of water quality impairment is abandoned mine drainage. [Read more here.](#)

Combined with growing inflation, this means fewer jobs will be supported cleaning up mines and more hazardous coal mining damage won't be reclaimed in Appalachia and across the country.

Congress passed the original Abandoned Mine Land funding in 2021 as part of the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which provided \$10.9 billion over 15 years for the program.

The [Eastern PA Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation](#) had this to [say on Facebook](#) about the cuts--

"PA is going to see a huge reduction in funding for AMD and abandoned mine land



reclamation projects due to these actions at the Federal level by Congress.

"We tried to advocate to stop this from happening, but were unsuccessful unfortunately in keeping the funding from being repurposed.

"Many groups across Appalachia and the West tried to speak up to prevent the cuts, but a number of our legislative leaders decided to vote the other way for reasons we remain baffled by.

"Bobby Hughes [EPCAMR Executive Director] has in the past tried to get as much media attention as possible on this subject and action as well as having had reached out to PA legislators and became frustrated when these decisions were made."

Nathan Houtz, DEP Deputy Secretary For Active and Abandoned Mine Operations, told DEP's Mining and Reclamation Advisory Board in January, "We've been talking with our senators and congressmen and their staff about, though this money disappeared, we'd like to see it come back.

"The best I could say is to keep those lines of communication open with the legislators in DC, that we'd like to see the money come back and we definitely don't want to see this be the opening of a door to take more money from IIJA (federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment Act)."

Visit DEP's [Abandoned Mine Reclamation](#) webpage to learn more about this program.

Visit the [PA Abandoned Mine Land Campaign](#) website and the [Our Work's Not Done Abandoned Mine Lands](#) website for more information.

(Photos: Little Conemaugh River before and after mine drainage treatment projects.)

Resource Links:

-- Congress Cut [Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding To PA By \\$169 Million Canceling Critical Water Quality Restoration Projects](#) [PaEN]

Related Articles This Week:

-- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]

-- Sewickley Creek [Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7](#) [PaEN]

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-- Penn State Extension: [July 22 Webinar On Diagnosing Common Well Water Issues; August 19 Webinar On Choosing The Right Water Treatment Device](#) [PaEN]

-- Save The Date: [Penn State Ag Progress Days - August 11-13](#)

-- PA American Water [Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)

-- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Stormwater Project Aims To Reduce Flooding In South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods](#)

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-- Independent: [Susquehanna County Conservation District Hosting Student Watershed Day Camp July 21](#)

-- TribLive Letter: [Let's Correct The Record, LCT Energy Does Have Violations At Its Rustic Ridge No. 1 Underground Coal Mine In Westmoreland, Fayette Counties](#) - By Stacey Magda, [Mountain Watershed Association](#)

-- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area, Northumberland County](#)

-- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

[Posted: June 18, 2026]

PA Interfaith Power & Light Seeking Volunteers To Provide Peer-To-Peer Support To Congregations, Community Groups Looking To Plan Their First Or Next Tree Planting Project



[PA Interfaith Power and Light](#) is seeking volunteers for a [Tree2Table Education Cohort](#) to provide peer-to-peer support to congregations, community groups as part of its [Roots, Branches and Hands Tree Planting Initiative](#). Deadline to apply August 1.

Interfaith is asking volunteers for a 12 month commitment that begins with a three month learning community followed by 9 months of

project and peer-to-peer support that is designed specifically for congregations and community groups that are looking to take their FIRST or NEXT Tree planting step.

Training topics include--

- Faith-based tree equity principles
- Community engagement and leadership
- Ethics of data collection
- How to use mapping and reporting tools
- Canvassing basics
- Tree distribution logistics

Why volunteer?

- Build community across traditions,
- Restore local canopy,
- Care for creation together.

Interfaith hopes to convene community representative(s) in our cohort to support community tree planting or tree distribution projects.

This cohort is open to all levels of tree experience and individuals, congregations, or community groups of any size, any tradition (or none), and any stage of your tree planting and distribution journey.

Cohorts begin in the fall of 2026 and the spring of 2027.

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

Visit the [Roots, Branches and Hands Tree Planting Initiative](#) webpage to learn more about this program and to order trees for your planting project.

For more information on programs, initiatives and other upcoming events, visit the [PA Interfaith Power & Light](#) website.

Resource Link:

-- PA Interfaith [Power & Light: How To Order Trees To Plant Under Roots, Branches & Hands Program Opening June 8](#) [PaEN]

Related Articles This Week:

-- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It: Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]

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-- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area.](#)

[Northumberland County](#)

-- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

[Posted: June 16, 2026]

PA American Water Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair

On June 16, [Pennsylvania American Water](#) launched its 2026 Flow Forward Summer Camp Program, offering high school sophomores, juniors and seniors a multi-day workforce development experience.

This year, the company will host the camp in two locations for students to explore career pathways and participate in hands-on opportunities and mentorship-- in McMurray, Washington County from June 16-18 and in Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County from June 23-25.

"Investing in our youth is an investment in the future of our workforce," **said Pennsylvania American Water President Justin Ladner.** "By creating opportunities for young people to gain real-world experience, we are helping develop the next generation of water and wastewater leaders who will keep our communities strong and our essential services moving forward."

The Flow Forward students will participate in skill-building workshops and learning activities, facility tours, resume and interview preparation and have opportunities to network and speak with company staff and industry experts, providing real-world experience and career exploration in the water and wastewater industries.

Internship Program

Pennsylvania American Water also offers the Future Wavemakers Internship Program for college students.

Designed to cultivate the next generation of water and wastewater industry leaders, this initiative is built on the foundation of mentorship, professional development and real-world projects that align with both students' academic backgrounds and American Water's organizational goals.

Interns participate in capstone projects, networking events and skill-building workshops, all while contributing fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to the company.

This year, the program welcomed 16 college interns at Pennsylvania American Water workplaces across the state, offering hands-on experience in engineering, finance, operations, health and safety, communications and more.

Requests For Career Fairs

In addition to internship experiences, the company conducts outreach throughout the year to educate students and adults alike about career paths and job opportunities in the water and wastewater industry.

The company also partners with schools, colleges, elected officials, government agencies and non-profits and statewide organizations to promote careers in the water industry through participation at school presentations, facility tours, career fairs, community events and more.

To request a Pennsylvania American Water representative at an upcoming career fair or outreach event, interested groups can contact pa.communityrelations@amwater.com.

[Pennsylvania American Water](#) remains dedicated to strengthening its talent pipeline and

building stronger communities through innovative workforce development programs.

Learn more about the [company's workforce here](#).

[Click Here to learn more about working at American Water](#) or to view open positions.

[Click Here for the PA American Water announcement](#).

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 - PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)
- [Posted: June 16, 2026]

PA Fibershed Seeks Next Generation Of Student Leaders For Ambassador Program, Applications Close June 30



As the fashion and textile industries face mounting environmental and economic challenges, [Pennsylvania Fibershed](#) is expanding its University Ambassador Program to additional campuses across Pennsylvania for the 2026-2027 academic year.

The program arms students with the knowledge, leadership experience, and professional skills needed to shape a more regenerative future.

[Applications for the 2026–2027](#) Ambassador cohort close on June 30, 2026.

Textile Waste

According to the PennEnvironment Research and Policy Center, Pennsylvanians alone send over 370,000 tons of textiles to landfills and incinerators each year, which is equivalent to over 50 pounds of clothing per PA resident.

At the same time, the global fashion industry is responsible for an estimated 4–10% of greenhouse gas emissions, according to the United Nations Environment Programme.

Decades of outsourcing have also weakened regional manufacturing systems and disconnected consumers from the origins of their clothing.

The Program

PA Fibershed's University Ambassador Program was created to help students better understand these challenges while actively participating in solutions rooted in regional collaboration, education, and community engagement.

The program brings together student leaders from Pennsylvania colleges and universities to explore issues surrounding textile waste, natural fibers, circular systems, and regional manufacturing.

Through hands-on programming and mentorship, ambassadors gain practical experience in event planning, public engagement, nonprofit operations, and collaborative leadership.

“The PA Fibershed Student Ambassador Program has solidified my textile knowledge and the ability to teach others, helped me gain confidence when networking and understand the importance of documenting all events and their impact,” **said 25-26 Jefferson Ambassador Maggie Robinson.** “Since being with the program I have been able to host textile related workshops, informational events and connect students with industry professionals.”

During its inaugural 25-26 year, ambassadors from Drexel and Thomas Jefferson Universities contributed more than 170 outreach hours, planned and executed 10 educational and community events, and helped divert over 1,000 garments from landfill.

Students who are passionate about sustainability, fashion, textiles, circularity, agriculture, nonprofit leadership, environmental advocacy, economic development or community engagement are encouraged to apply.

[View the 2025 Impact Report.](#)

[Click Here to watch a video about the program.](#)

[Click Here for more information and application details.](#)

[Pennsylvania Fibershed](#) is a nonprofit organization working to build a regional fiber and textile system rooted in regenerative agriculture, local manufacturing, and community connection.

Related Articles This Week:

-- Registration Now Open! [Keep PA Beautiful 2026 Annual Conference - Oct. 14-15 In Reading](#)

-- PA Fibershed [Seeks Next Generation Of Student Leaders For Ambassador Program.](#)

[Applications Close June 30](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Large Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From 2 Trinity Mineral Partners](#)

[Conventional Oil & Gas Well Sites In Sugar Grove Twp., Warren County: That's 3 Spill Sites This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Site In Brokenstraw Twp., Warren County, 3rd Site This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds No [Action Taken To Cleanup Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Oil Well At A Site In Washington County For 936 Days](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- Altoona Mirror: [Anaerobic Digester Company Pays Altoona Water Authority \\$551,000 to Cover Shortfall In Operating Income For 2025, Another Shortfall Likely This Year](#)

-- KYW: [Vacant Lots In Delaware County Could Transform Into Green Spaces Thanks To An Expanding Initiative](#)

-- WHYY - Zoe Read: [City Of Chester In Delaware County Fights Illegal Dumping With New Greening Initiative For Vacant Lots](#)

-- The Conversation: [Microplastics Are Everywhere In Pennsylvania's Water - But There May Be A Little Bit Of Hope](#) - By Penn State Professors Nathaniel Warner, Lisa Emili and Raymond Najjar

[Posted: June 18, 2026]

The EPIC Allegheny Odyssey - Paddling Thru 250 Years Of American History, 75 Miles Of The Allegheny River From Warren To Emlenton July 26 to Aug. 1

Registration is now open for the [EPIC Allegheny Odyssey](#)-- a six-day, 75 mile journey down the Allegheny River from Warren to Emlenton to celebrate the 250th years of American History from July 26 to August 1.

Beginning with a kickoff celebration in Warren, PA on Sunday, July 26, 2026, the paddling journey launches Monday, July 27, traveling through the [Wild and Scenic Allegheny River corridor](#) to Emlenton-- passing through welcoming communities, dramatic river landscapes, and living chapters of American history.

Participants will paddle 75 of the river's 105 miles, allowing organizers to coordinate lodging and overnight accommodations along the route.

Led by the Oil Region Alliance of Business, Industry & Tourism (ORA), the official manager of the Oil Region National Heritage Area, this expedition will leave a lasting legacy through powerful storytelling, a commemorative book, and the unforgettable experiences of all who participate.

Supported by a sojourn mini-grant from the PA Organization for Watersheds and Rivers funded by DCNR.

Visit the [EPIC Allegheny Odyssey](#) website to register and for more information.

(Reprinted from the [latest DCNR Grants News](#). [Click Here to sign up](#) for your own copy.)

Related Articles This Week:

-- State Budget Briefing: [94% Of Voters Believe State Parks, State Forests Are Important To Quality Of Life In Pennsylvania; 86% Want Funding Them To Be A State Priority](#) [PaEN]

-- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)

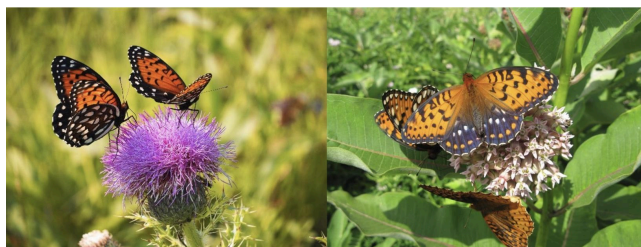
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- Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)

[Posted: June 18, 2026]

Fort Indiantown Gap Offering Tours Of Rare Regal Fritillary Butterfly Habitat In Lebanon County



On June 15, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs announced wildlife staff will provide free, guided tours of the only population of the eastern regal fritillary butterfly in the eastern United States, at [Fort Indiantown Gap](#) near Annville, Lebanon County.

Guided tours will be offered, rain or shine, June 29, as well as July 1, 8 and 10. No rain dates will be provided.

Reservations are required and attendance is limited. All attendees, including children, [must register online and obtain a free permit](#).

To attend a tour, you must present a permit for that specific date and time slot. All press must also register online and obtain the free permit to attend.

“These tours afford the public an opportunity to see this rare butterfly and its home ecosystem on military training ranges, as well as the many other natural wonders on the 17,000-acre military installation,” **said Robert Hepner, DMVA deputy for facilities and engineering**. “Staff will also highlight a variety of animals and plants found at Fort Indiantown Gap and how the military presence on the installation is vital to the persistence of these species and their ecosystems.”

Attendees will be required to travel, guided by FTIG personnel, from the meeting location to the tour location in their personal vehicles.

Tours will last approximately one hour plus driving time. Meeting location and parking information will be provided after obtaining a permit.

Visitors of all ages and abilities are invited and welcome to attend. Tours involve a moderately difficult hike on foot over gravel roads and mowed paths.

Please bring drinking water and dress appropriately for the weather and uneven terrain.

Wandering off the path, into the fields or away from your tour guide is prohibited. Please note, there is little or no shade on the tour route.

General inquiries about the tours can be emailed to RA-DMVA-Wildlife@pa.gov or call (717) 861-2449.

Like many military installations, FTIG is home to a diverse population of plants and animals, many of which are rare and considered species of conservation concern.

It is home to 49 species of mammals, 143 species of breeding birds, 37 species of reptiles and amphibians, 35 species of fish, more than 800 species of plants, along with many other notable species of invertebrates including 86 species of butterflies and over 900 species of moths.

These species persist at FTIG because it provides an assortment of high-quality habitats.

This includes rare early successional ecosystems such as grasslands, thickets, shrub lands and young forests, which were created and maintained from disturbances caused by military training, fires and conservation efforts.

The installation is home to 1,000 acres of scrub oak and pitch pine barrens and approximately 2,200 acres of native grassland habitat – the largest in the state.

[Fort Indiantown Gap](#), which serves as headquarters to the DMVA and the Pennsylvania National Guard (PANG), is the only live-fire, maneuver military training facility in Pennsylvania.

The 17,000-acre installation balances one of the region’s most ecologically diverse areas with a military mission that annually supports nearly 18,000 PANG personnel and more than 113,000 additional personnel from other branches of service, multinational partners and interagency partners at the federal, state and local level.

[Click Here for the announcement](#).

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-- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish &](#)

Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available

- DCNR State Park Environmental Ed News: [Bright Summer Teaching Ideas! June 21 Solstice: Professional Development Opportunities: Explore The Outdoors!](#)
- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites](#) [Video &Photos]
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- [Posted: June 15, 2026]

PA Sea Grant: Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz Set For June 29 to July 12; Clean Your Gear!

This summer, boaters have the opportunity to engage in prevention activities through the annual [Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz](#), a binational, multi-agency effort aimed at raising public awareness and promoting prevention.

The Blitz takes place June 29 through July 12, 2026, in Pennsylvania and other Great Lakes states in the U.S. and Canada.

This initiative brings together volunteers, state agencies, lake associations, and watercraft inspectors to educate boaters and anglers about AIS and ways to prevent their spread.

In 2025, more than 125,000 boat inspections were held, and more than 130,000 people

learned about AIS.

Your organization does not need to be located in the Great Lakes watershed to take part in this regional effort.

Participation is free, and educational supplies, trainings, and outreach materials are provided to support volunteers and local events.

If you're considering planning an AIS Landing Blitz activity, or want to learn more, reach out to Pennsylvania Sea Grant's Extension Leader, Sara Stahlman at sstahlman@psu.edu.

[Click Here for the announcement.](#)

Visit the PA Sea Grant [Prevention & Management Of Invasive Species](#) webpage for more information on this topic.

Visit the Fish & Boat Commission's [Clean Your Gear webpage](#) to learn to prevent the spread of invasive species.

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- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: [US Senate Advances America The Beautiful](#)

[Act, Aiming To Renew Critical Funding For Public Lands](#)

-- Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)

[Posted: June 17, 2026]

Help Wanted: PA Parks & Forests Foundation Membership & Development Coordinator

The [PA Parks & Forests Foundation](#) seeking qualified candidates to fill the position of [Membership and Development Coordinator](#).

This position is responsible for managing the data that supports the Foundation's membership program, donation acknowledgments, CRM operations (NEON), and helps support event logistics, chapter communications, and website maintenance.

The ideal candidate is highly organized, tech-savvy, detail-oriented, and committed to supporting Pennsylvania's public lands.

[Click Here for a full job description](#).

Send resume and cover letter to: Marci Mowery, 704 Lisburn Road, Suite 102, Camp Hill, PA 17011 or email office@paparksandforests.org by July 10.

Action Alert!

Senate Bill 857 Undermines Land Sales, Donations For Conservation Purposes And Is A "Startling Interference" With The Rights of Private Property Owners.

The PA Senate is about to vote on the bill.

[Click Here to learn more](#) (scroll down) and let your voice be heard.

Think Outside Podcast

The latest Think Outside Podcast is now available: [Rooted In Stewardship - The William Penn Forest District With Rick Hartlieb](#)

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

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

For more information on programs, initiatives, special events and how you can get involved, visit the [PA Parks & Forests Foundation](#) website. [Click Here](#) to sign up for regular updates from the Foundation, [Like them on Facebook](#) or [Follow them on Twitter](#) or tune in to their [YouTube Channel](#). [Click Here](#) to become a member of the Foundation.

Related Articles This Week:

-- State Budget Briefing: [94% Of Voters Believe State Parks, State Forests Are Important To Quality Of Life In Pennsylvania; 86% Want Funding Them To Be A State Priority](#) [PaEN]

-- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)

-- DCNR State Park Environmental Ed News: [Bright Summer Teaching Ideas! June 21 Solstice; Professional Development Opportunities; Explore The Outdoors!](#)

-- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites](#) [Video & Photos]

-- Call For Presentation [Proposals: PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference & Expo March 16-19](#) [PaEN]

-- Help Wanted: [PA Parks & Forests Foundation Membership & Development Coordinator](#) [PaEN]

- Save The Date: [Celebrate The Blazing Star Bloom July 25 At PA's Only Prairie, Jennings Environmental Education Center In Butler County](#)
- The EPIC Allegheny Odyssey - [Paddling Thru 250 Years Of American History, 75 Miles Of The Allegheny River From Warren To Emlenton July 26 to Aug. 1](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- Erie Times: [Presque Isle State Park Beaches To Get Federal Funding For Sand Replenishment In Reversal](#)
 - Inquirer: [Popular But Deadly Glen Onoko Falls Trail In Carbon County Will Reopen In The Poconos](#)
 - PennLive: [PA House Passes Bill Targeting Illegal Dirt Bikes, ATVs](#)
 - TribLive: [Part Of Great Allegheny Passage To Close Next Month For Landslide Repairs](#)
 - LancasterOnline: [4 Projects Getting Southcentral PA Closer To A Connected Trail System](#)
 - Post-Gazette: [The Scoop On Pennsylvania's Ice Cream Trail](#)
 - PA Capital-Star: [E-Scooters Are Everywhere In PA, This Legislation Would Make Them Legal](#)
 - WVIA: [Health Officials Urge Prevention During Tick Bite Spike For NE PA Residents](#)
 - Williamsport Sun Editorial: [Ways To Deal With A Band Year For Ticks](#)
 - WHYY: [Federal Court Ruling Clears Way To Replace Slavery Exhibit In Philadelphia At President's House Site, Handing President A Win](#)
 - Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: [US Senate Advances America The Beautiful Act, Aiming To Renew Critical Funding For Public Lands](#)
 - Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)
- [Posted: June 19, 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

- Anthracite Heritage Foundation, [Kings College, Carnegie Hero Fund Commission To Recognize 40 Anthracite Miners Awarded Carnegie Hero Medals On June 27 In Wilkes-Barre](#) [PaEN]
- Sewickley Creek [Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7](#) [PaEN]
- Erie Times: [See How Erie's Benedictine Sisters Have Served Erie Through The Years In Photos](#) [See Sister Pat Lupo] [More About Sister Pat Lupo]
- Penn State Master [Watershed Steward Ken Pledger's Enthusiasm For The Environment Takes Root In Projects In Adams, Cumberland Counties](#) [PaEN]
- Spotlight PA: [Does The City Of Chester Water Authority In Delaware County Offer North America's Best Tasting Tap Water? They're Headed To DC To Compete](#)
- TribLive: [Etna Borough Recognized For Revitalization Efforts By Green Building Alliance](#)
- Republican Herald: [DHH Lengel Middle School In Pottsville Awarded 2026 Governor's Award For Environmental Excellence For Overturning A Citywide Ban On Milkweed](#)

- Delaware Highlands Conservancy [Awards Scholarship To Elizabeth Bailey, Delaware Valley High School, Pike County](#) [PaEN]
- Williamsport Sun: [Hughesville Library Holds Release Of Trout In The Classroom Rainbow Trout Fingerlings](#)

Grants

- PennDOT [Now Accepting Applications For National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grants In Western And Southeast PA; June 25 Webinar For Western Applicants](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)

Help Wanted

- PA American Water [Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair](#) [PaEN]
- PA Fibershed [Seeks Next Generation Of Student Leaders For Ambassador Program, Applications Close June 30](#) [PaEN]
- Help Wanted: [PA Parks & Forests Foundation Membership & Development Coordinator](#) [PaEN]
- PA Interfaith [Power & Light Seeking Volunteers To Provide Peer-To-Peer Support To Congregations, Community Groups Looking To Plan Their First Or Next Tree Planting Project](#) [PaEN]

Upcoming Events

- DEP Citizens Advisory [Council Meets June 23 To Hear Presentation On Carbon Capture; Discuss Comments On DEP Act 54 Report On Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining; Air Quality Regulations](#) [PaEN]
- Fort Indiantown Gap [Offering Tours Of Rare Regal Fritillary Butterfly Habitat In Lebanon County](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive: [Learn About The Life Of A Game Warden At Junior Game Commission Warden Camp](#)
- Lehigh Valley-based [Wildlands Conservancy Highlights July Experiences, Programs; Summer Camp Registration Now Open](#)
- Post-Gazette: [The Scoop On Pennsylvania's Ice Cream Trail](#)
- Penn State Extension [July 14 Webinar: Preview Of 2026 Watershed-Friendly Tree And Shrub Sale To Help You Choose Plants Confidently](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension [July 15 Webinar On Private Water Supply Testing Packages Available From Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Lab](#) [PaEN]
- Independent: [Susquehanna County Conservation District Hosting Student Watershed Day Camp July 21](#)
- Penn State Extension: [July 22 Webinar On Diagnosing Common Well Water Issues; August 19 Webinar On Choosing The Right Water Treatment Device](#) [PaEN]
- Save The Date: [Celebrate The Blazing Star Bloom July 25 At PA's Only Prairie, Jennings Environmental Education Center In Butler County](#)
- The EPIC Allegheny Odyssey - [Paddling Thru 250 Years Of American History, 75 Miles Of The Allegheny River From Warren To Emlenton July 26 to Aug. 1](#) [PaEN]
- Save The Date: [Penn State Ag Progress Days - August 11-13](#)
- Registration Now Open! [Keep PA Beautiful 2026 Annual Conference - Oct. 14-15 In Reading](#)
- Call For Presentation [Proposals: PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference & Expo](#)

[March 16-19](#) [PaEN]

Public Participation

- DEP Citizens Advisory [Council Meets June 23 To Hear Presentation On Carbon Capture: Discuss Comments On DEP Act 54 Report On Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining: Air Quality Regulations](#) [PaEN]
- **PA Oil & Gas** [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - June 20](#) [PaEN]
- **DEP Posted** [51 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In June 20 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]
- Allegheny County [To Host June 24 Virtual Meeting Inviting Public Input On The County's First-Ever Climate Action Plan](#) [PaEN]
- Reminder: [June 23 In-Person DEP Hearing On Stormwater Permit For Mora Solar LLC 390-Acre Solar Energy Facility In Kidder Twp., Carbon County](#)
- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)
- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)
- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)
- Guest Essay: [For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table](#) - By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive Editorial: [Latest Examples Of Efforts To Narrow Public Discourse Should Be Opposed](#)

Programs/Information

- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]
- The Center Square: [PA's Energy Future A Defining Issue In Gubernatorial Race](#)
- TribLive: [Assistance Available As Electric Bill Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation Rate](#)
- PUC Announced [Distribution Of \\$243.8 Million In Act 13 Shale Gas Drilling Impact Fees For PA Communities, State Environmental, Other Programs](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive: [New Shale Gas Wells, Higher Natural Gas Prices Raise State's Drilling Impact Fee Distribution To \\$243.8 Million](#)
- First United [Presbyterian Church Of Crafton Heights In Pittsburgh Cut Energy Bills By More Than 2/3, Now Invests More In People, The Community](#) [PaEN]
- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Eos Energy Energy Storage Company Starts Production At 2nd Facility In Pittsburgh Area](#)
- Pittsburgh Business Times: [Eos Energy Energy Storage Company Secures Exclusive Distributor For Germany, Austria, Switzerland](#)
- Planet Philadelphia [Radio Show June 19: Sustainability At Colleges & Universities](#), 4:00 p.m.
- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)
- The Conversation: [Microplastics Are Everywhere In Pennsylvania's Water - But There May](#)

[Be A Little Bit Of Hope](#) - By Penn State Professors Nathaniel Warner, Lisa Emili and Raymond Najjar

- WHY: [Delaware County Wastewater Samples Test Positive For Measles, So Far No Person Has A Confirmed Diagnosis Of The Disease](#)
- DCNR State Park Environmental Ed News: [Bright Summer Teaching Ideas! June 21 Solstice: Professional Development Opportunities; Explore The Outdoors!](#)
- WTAE: [Forest County Firefly Festival Draws Visitors For Rare Synchronous Display To Allegheny National Forest](#)
- PA Parks & Forests Foundation Think Outside Podcast: [Rooted In Stewardship - The William Penn Forest District With Rick Hartlieb](#)
- TribLive: [Part Of Great Allegheny Passage To Close Next Month For Landslide Repairs](#)
- LancasterOnline: [4 Projects Getting Southcentral PA Closer To A Connected Trail System](#)
- Reading Eagle: [Schuylkill River Sojourn Travels Into Berks County](#) [In Photos]
- Reading Eagle: [28th Schuylkill River Sojourn Lands In Pottstown](#) [Photos, Video]
- Morning Call: [After Man Drowned In Easton, Officials Urge Caution While On Rivers](#)
- PA Capital-Star: [E-Scooters Are Everywhere In PA, This Legislation Would Make Them Legal](#)
- PennLive: [PA House Passes Bill Targeting Illegal Dirt Bikes, ATVs](#)
- KYW: [Vacant Lots In Delaware County Could Transform Into Green Spaces Thanks To An Expanding Initiative](#)
- WHY - Zoe Read: [City Of Chester In Delaware County Fights Illegal Dumping With New Greening Initiative For Vacant Lots](#)
- LancasterOnline: [2.4 Magnitude Earthquake Shakes Maryland/PA](#)
- Erie Times - Brian Whipkey: [Game Commission Offers Nesting Boxes For Purple Martins, Swifts](#)
- Erie Times: [Thousands Watching Erie-Based Purple Martin Live Nestcam, 5 Eggs Ready To Hatch](#)
- Post-Gazette - Mary Ann Thomas: [New Harpy Eagle At Pittsburgh National Aviary Is A 'Once-In-A-Lifetime Species To See'](#)
- WNEP: [Snakes Take Center Stage At Noxen's Annual Rattlesnake Round-Up In Wyoming County](#)
- PA Sea Grant: [Great Lakes Aquatic Invasive Species Landing Blitz Set For June 29 to July 12: Clean Your Gear!](#) [PaEN]
- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites](#) [Video & Photos]
- WVIA: [Health Officials Urge Prevention During Tick Bite Spike For NE PA Residents](#)
- Williamsport Sun Editorial: [Ways To Deal With A Bad Year For Ticks](#)

A.I./Data Centers

- **In Case You Missed It:** [A.I./Data Center Articles - NewClips From Last Week - June 22](#) [PaEN]
- PA House [Passes Legislation Authorizing Virtual Power Plants To Use Existing Energy Resources More Effectively, Address Grid Reliability, Rising Energy Bills; 16 House Energy Bills Now In Senate](#) [PaEN]
- House Committees [OK Bills To Add Energy Storage To Grid To Improve Reliability; Add Conditions For Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit; Speed Connection Of Clean Energy](#)

[Generation To Grid To Help Reduce Energy Costs; Other Bills](#) [PaEN]

-- ICYMI: [Legislation To Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Voted Out Of House Finance Committee](#)

-- Legislation To [Codify Gov. Shapiro's GRID Data Center Standards Into Law Introduced In PA House](#) [[House Bill 2650](#)]

-- PennLive: [As PA Data Center Development Surges, PA House Fast-Tracks Bills To Address It](#) [Not Senate]

-- The Center Square: [PA's Energy Future A Defining Issue In Gubernatorial Race](#)

-- The Center Square: [Republican Senators Ward, Yaw Say State Losing Out Because Of Shapiro-Backed Price Caps On Electricity Prices](#) [But Yaw [Asked FERC In March To Require PJM To Keep Charging PA Ratepayers The Same Record High Rates](#)] [Warning]

-- The Guardian: [How The Fight Over US A.I. Data Centers Is Scrambling Pennsylvania's Politics: 'We Don't Want It'](#)

-- Centre Daily Times Column: [Climate Watch - Energy Concerns Now Focus For State Lawmakers](#)

-- Wilkes-Barre Times Leader: [\\$1.2 Billion, 4,000 Acre Land Deal Announced With 194 Landowners For 2nd A.I. Data Center Project With 39 Buildings, 4 GW Power Plant Demand In Salem Twp., Luzerne County By 4-3 Group](#)

-- The Citizens' Voice: [3rd A.I. Data Center Proposal In Salem Twp. Could Generate \\$1.2 Billion For Landowners In Luzerne County](#)

-- Scranton Times: [Lackawanna County Eyes A.I. Data Center Health Impact Study, Emergency Response Assessment](#)

-- Scranton Times - Chris Kelly Opinion: ['Wildly Unpopular, Obscenely Invasive' Wildcat Ridge A.I. Data Center Developers Rests Its Comically Unconvincing Case In Archbald Hearing](#) [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- LehighValleyLive: [Massive Lehigh Valley Warehouse Set To Convert To A.I. Data Center In Allen Twp., Northampton County](#)

-- Republican Herald: [Amazon Web Services Outlines Plans For 380 Acre A.I. Data Center In Kline Twp., Schuylkill County](#)

-- Williamsport Sun: [Former Muncy Twp. Zoning Officer Said Data Center Proposal Was Being Pushed Thru As A Warehouse And It Should Be Denied, Resubmitted As A Conditional Use](#)

-- TheDerrick.com: [Venango County Residents Pack Meeting To Voice Concerns Over Proposed A.I. Data Center Proposal In Scrubgrass Twp. At Scrubgrass Power Plant](#) [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- PA Capital-Star/The Conversation: [How PA Towns Are Protecting Themselves From The Noise, Heat And Utility Costs Of A.I. Data Centers](#)

-- PennEnvironment [Offers A.I. Data Center Resources: True Costs Of Data Centers To The Environment, Consumers; Impacts Of Dirty Backup Generators; Slowing Transition To Clean Energy](#) [PaEN]

Background On Issues

-- PA Oil & Gas Weekly [Compliance Dashboard - June 13 to 19 - 4 Contaminated Groundwater Releases From Conventional Wells; Abandoned Conventional Well Violations Hit 300](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Large Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From 2 Trinity Mineral Partners Conventional Oil & Gas Well Sites In Sugar Grove Twp., Warren County; That's 3 Spill Sites This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds [Releases Of Contaminated Groundwater From Trinity Mineral Partners](#)

[Conventional Oil & Gas Well Site In Brokenstraw Twp., Warren County, 3rd Site This Week](#) [PaEN]

-- DEP Finds No [Action Taken To Cleanup Contaminated Groundwater From Conventional Oil Well At A Site In Washington County For 936 Days](#) [PaEN]

-- Rolling Stone/DeSmog - Justin Nobel: [Her Son Died Of A Rare Bone Cancer, Could Unsecured Oil & Gas Equipment Waste Facility In Cecil Twp., Washington County Be To Blame?](#)

-- TribLive: [Penneco Repairs Road Near Oil & Gas Wastewater Injection Wells In Plum Boro After Damage From Truck Traffic In Allegheny County](#)

-- Inquirer: [Delta Monroe Energy Jet Fuel Refinery In Delaware County Shuts Down Due To Internal Leak](#)

-- ProPublica: [President Plans To Protect Methane-Leaking Conventional /Stripper Oil & Gas Wells, Hilcorp Oil & Gas Company Owner To Benefit](#) [Hilcorp Operates In PA]

-- Observer-Reporter Guest Essay: [Pennsylvania Coal Makes A Comeback, Long-Term Coal-fired Power Plants Cannot Compete Economically With Cheaper Renewables](#) - By Gary Stout, Washington Attorney [[PDF of Article](#)]

-- Spotlight PA/NOTUS: [The Dept. Of Defense Quietly Delayed PFAS 'Forever Chemical' Cleanup At 9 Military Sites In Pennsylvania](#)

-- Morning Call: [PFAS 'Forever Chemicals' Found In Delaware River Water, Wildlife: Why This Matters](#)

-- AP: [President's Administrations Buys Back 4 Invenergy Wind Energy Projects For \\$765 Million, Will Invest In Natural Gas, Geothermal Ventures Instead](#)

-- Environmental Defense Fund: [Environmental Groups Back Lawsuit Against Dept. Of Defense Freeze On Wind Energy Projects](#)

-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

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: June 21, 2026]

Delaware Highlands Conservancy Awards Scholarship To Elizabeth Bailey, Delaware Valley High School, Pike County



On June 16, the [Delaware Highlands Conservancy](#) announced the award of the annual Vanessa Joy Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship for \$2,500 to Elizabeth Bailey, a 2026 graduate of [Delaware Valley High School](#) in Pike County.

The [Vanessa Joy Van Gorder Memorial Scholarship](#) was established in 2015 in honor of Vanessa, who passed away on December 25, 2014.

A recent graduate from West Chester University with a degree in

education, Vanessa was passionate about the outdoors and loved exploring the region with her friends and family.

The Conservancy established this scholarship in Vanessa's memory and to honor her dream of becoming an educator.

Elizabeth Bailey

Recipient Elizabeth Bailey will attend the Rochester Institute of Technology, where she intends to study biology with a focus on conservation and environmental science.

In high school, she was recognized as an AP Scholar with Distinction; served as captain of the Varsity Swimming and Diving Team; was a member of the National Honor Society and a Student Council officer; and was a three-time chapter officer and national award winner in Future Business Leaders of America.

She also participated in numerous other academic and athletic clubs.

Elizabeth gave back to her community through volunteer service, including fundraising for United Way, teaching children about birds through a bird-feeder-building project at the local library, and distributing meals to local families.

In her career, Elizabeth hopes to help protect the environment to ensure that places like the one she grew up in will continue to exist.

To continue to inspire youth and encourage study and careers in natural science and education, contributions to the scholarship fund and other environmental education and conservation initiatives [can be made online](#) or by mail to 571 Perkins Pond Rd, Beach Lake, PA 18405.

The [Delaware Highlands Conservancy's](#) mission is to conserve the forests, farmland, clean waters, and wildlife habitat of the Upper Delaware River region for present and future generations and to foster environmental stewardship through community engagement.

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- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)
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- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites](#) [Video & Photos]
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 - Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)
- [Posted: June 16, 2026]

Penn State Extension July 14 Webinar: Preview Of 2026 Watershed-Friendly Tree And Shrub Sale To Help You Choose Plants Confidently

The [Penn State Extension](#) will host a [July 14 webinar](#) from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. to preview the watershed-friendly trees and shrubs available during the 2026 Penn State Master Watershed Steward Tree and Shrub Sale to help you confidently choose the right plants.

Transform your yard into a watershed-friendly landscape that supports wildlife, enhances biodiversity, and helps protect local streams and water quality.

In this webinar, Penn State Extension and [Octoraro Native Plant Nursery](#) owner and grower Kevin Zuidervliet will highlight the native trees and shrubs featured in the Watershed-Friendly Tree and Shrub Sale.

This webinar will cover highlighted species of note, particular benefits to the native ecosystem, and considerations when siting and selecting species for your property.

The presenters will also explain what to expect when ordering and picking up plants, helping participants make informed decisions and choose confidently for a healthier landscape and watershed.

Learn directly from the growers who raise these trees and shrubs about featured species, ecologically friendly growing practices, and what to expect when you pick up your plants.

Enhance your webinar experience by submitting questions in advance. Registrants will have the opportunity to share questions before the session, and the presenter will respond to selected questions live.

Who is this for?

- Pennsylvania residents interested in planting native trees and shrubs
- Anyone interested in learning more about nursery practices for the featured species
- Landowners
- Groundskeepers for parks, municipalities, and schools
- Municipal officials and staff
- Members of watershed associations, conservation groups, and volunteer organizations

What will you learn?

- Which native tree and shrub species will be offered in this year's fundraiser
- The benefits of adding native species to your landscape
- The specific benefits of the species offered this year (e.g., supporting pollinators, producing edible fruit, and providing wildlife habitat)
- How to purchase native trees and shrubs through the Penn State Master Watershed Stewards' 2026 Watershed-Friendly Tree Sale

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

Visit the [Penn State Extension](#) website to learn about many other educational opportunities.

Related Articles This Week:

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- Penn State Master [Watershed Steward Ken Pledger's Enthusiasm For The Environment Takes Root In Projects In Adams, Cumberland Counties](#) [PaEN]
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NewsClips:

- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)
- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Stormwater Project Aims To Reduce Flooding In South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods](#)
- TribLive - Jack Troy: [Firepoint Energy Mining Leftovers For Rare Earth Minerals Offers Billion-Dollar Opportunities In PA](#)
- Independent: [Susquehanna County Conservation District Hosting Student Watershed Day Camp July 21](#)
- TribLive Letter: [Let's Correct The Record, LCT Energy Does Have Violations At Its Rustic Ridge No. 1 Underground Coal Mine In Westmoreland, Fayette Counties](#) - By Stacey Magda, [Mountain Watershed Association](#)
- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area, Northumberland County](#)
- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks](#)

[And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

[Posted: June 14, 2026]

Penn State Extension July 15 Webinar On Private Water Supply Testing Packages Available From Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Lab

The [Penn State Extension](#) will host a [July 15 webinar on the testing packages](#) available for private water supply owners from the Penn State Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory Drinking Water Program from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

If your home relies on a private water system, regular testing is essential to help ensure your drinking water meets quality standards.

This webinar will introduce participants to the [Penn State Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory](#) Drinking Water Program, including available test packages, proper water sample collection procedures, and resources for understanding and interpreting test results.

Gain practical information to help you monitor and protect the quality of your household water supply.

Who is this for?

-- Private water supply users; Homeowners; and Individuals interested in learning more about their water supply

What will you learn?

- How to take a water sample
- How to use the services offered by the Penn State Agricultural Analytical Services Laboratory
- How to read a water test report

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

Visit the [Penn State Extension](#) website to learn about many other educational opportunities.

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- Penn State Extension [July 15 Webinar On Private Water Supply Testing Packages Available From Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Lab](#) [PaEN]
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- Save The Date: [Penn State Ag Progress Days - August 11-13](#)
- PA American Water [Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water](#)

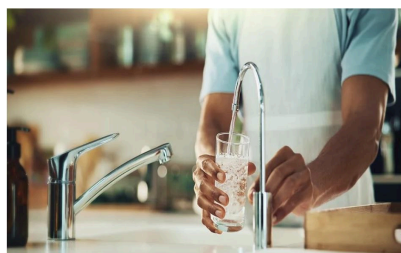
[Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)
- WESA - Rachel McDevitt: [Stormwater Project Aims To Reduce Flooding In South Pittsburgh Neighborhoods](#)
- TribLive - Jack Troy: [Firepoint Energy Mining Leftovers For Rare Earth Minerals Offers Billion-Dollar Opportunities In PA](#)
- Independent: [Susquehanna County Conservation District Hosting Student Watershed Day Camp July 21](#)
- TribLive Letter: [Let's Correct The Record, LCT Energy Does Have Violations At Its Rustic Ridge No. 1 Underground Coal Mine In Westmoreland, Fayette Counties](#) - By Stacey Magda, Mountain Watershed Association
- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area, Northumberland County](#)
- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

[Posted: June 15, 2026]

Penn State Extension: July 22 Webinar On Diagnosing Common Well Water Issues; August 19 Webinar On Choosing The Right Water Treatment Device



The [Penn State Extension](#) will host two timely webinars to help water well owners to diagnose common water quality issues and how to choose the right water treatment device to improve water quality and reduce contaminants.

July 22 Water Issues

Learn how to identify and address common drinking water problems in private water systems.

This presentation explores the causes of issues such as discolored water, plumbing fixture stains, unpleasant tastes, and odors and discusses practical approaches to improving water quality.

Participants will gain a better understanding of common water quality concerns and the steps that can be taken to diagnose and resolve them.

Who is this for?

- Private water supply users
- Homeowners
- Individuals interested in learning more about their water supply

What will you learn?

- Common drinking water issues
- The difference between aesthetic and health-based drinking water standards
- Water treatment options for improving drinking water quality

[Click Here to register for the webinar](#) that will be held July 22 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

August 19 Water Treatment

Water treatment devices such as water softeners, ultraviolet light systems, reverse

osmosis filters, and other treatment technologies are often marketed with claims about their ability to improve water quality and reduce contaminants.

This webinar will explore how third-party organizations evaluate and certify water treatment devices, what certifications consumers should look for when comparing products, and how to use online resources to verify whether a water treatment device has been independently certified.

Participants will gain practical guidance for evaluating treatment options and selecting equipment that meets their water quality needs.

Who is this for?

- DIYers who are in the market for a water treatment device
- Customers who want to independently research water treatment device recommendations from their water treatment company
- Water industry professionals who research or install water treatment equipment
- [Master Well Owner Network](#) volunteers

What will you learn?

- Major organizations that test and certify residential-scale water treatment equipment in the U.S. marketplace
- The processes third-party organizations use to test equipment and determine how much of a contaminant a device must remove to become certified
- The difference between certification and accreditation
- Why the term “EPA certified” often means very little
- What to do if your water treatment device is uncertified

[Click Here to register for the webinar](#) that will be held August 19 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Visit the Penn State [Master Well Owner Network](#) webpage to learn more about volunteers dedicated to promoting the proper construction and maintenance of private water systems.

Visit the [Penn State Extension](#) website to learn more about many other educational opportunities.

Related Articles This Week:

- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]
- Sewickley Creek [Watershed Association Celebrates 35 Years Of Restoring Water Quality In Westmoreland County On Aug. 7](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Master [Watershed Steward Ken Pledger's Enthusiasm For The Environment Takes Root In Projects In Adams, Cumberland Counties](#) [PaEN]
- PA Interfaith [Power & Light Seeking Volunteers To Provide Peer-To-Peer Support To Congregations, Community Groups Looking To Plan Their First Or Next Tree Planting Project](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension [July 14 Webinar: Preview Of 2026 Watershed-Friendly Tree And Shrub Sale To Help You Choose Plants Confidently](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension [July 15 Webinar On Private Water Supply Testing Packages Available From Penn State's Agricultural Analytical Services Lab](#) [PaEN]
- Penn State Extension: [July 22 Webinar On Diagnosing Common Well Water Issues; August 19 Webinar On Choosing The Right Water Treatment Device](#) [PaEN]
- Save The Date: [Penn State Ag Progress Days - August 11-13](#)

-- PA American Water [Holds Summer Camps To Help High School Students Explore Water Industry Careers; Contact American Water For Your Career Fair](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

-- The Allegheny Front: [ALCOSAN Said They Would Remove Sewage From Pittsburgh's Waterways - How's It Going?](#)

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-- TribLive Letter: [Let's Correct The Record, LCT Energy Does Have Violations At Its Rustic Ridge No. 1 Underground Coal Mine In Westmoreland, Fayette Counties](#) - By Stacey Magda, Mountain Watershed Association

-- PA American Water [Launches Lead Service Line ID Program In Milton Service Area, Northumberland County](#)

-- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

[Posted: June 16, 2026]

Call For Presentation Proposals: PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference & Expo March 16-19

The [PA Recreation and Park Society](#) is now accepting presentation proposals for its 2027 Conference & Expo to be held March 16-19 at Kalahari Resorts in the Poconos. The deadline for proposals is August 30.

This year's theme is "Building Connections, Bridging Gaps," and we are recruiting session proposals on industry hot topics and available session time slots.

The event will attract around 400 park and recreation professionals, including directors and staff of local, county, state, federal, and non-profit recreation and park departments and facilities, as well as aquatic facility managers, trail and greenway coordinators, local and state government officials, volunteer board/friends members, and students in recreation and parks or related college programs.

[Click Here to submit a proposal and for more information.](#)

For more information on programs, initiatives, upcoming events and training opportunities, visit the [PA Recreation and Park Society](#) website. Like them [on Facebook](#), Follow them [on Twitter](#), visit their [YouTube Channel](#), and find them [on Instagram](#). [Click Here](#) to support their work.

Related Articles This Week:

-- State Budget Briefing: [94% Of Voters Believe State Parks, State Forests Are Important To Quality Of Life In Pennsylvania; 86% Want Funding Them To Be A State Priority](#) [PaEN]

-- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)

-- DCNR State Park Environmental Ed News: [Bright Summer Teaching Ideas! June 21 Solstice: Professional Development Opportunities; Explore The Outdoors!](#)

- Health, [DCNR, DEP Provide Tips, For Preventing Lyme Disease And Tick Bites \[Video &Photos\]](#)
- Call For Presentation [Proposals: PA Recreation & Park Society Annual Conference & Expo March 16-19](#) [PaEN]
- Help Wanted: [PA Parks & Forests Foundation Membership & Development Coordinator](#) [PaEN]
- Save The Date: [Celebrate The Blazing Star Bloom July 25 At PA's Only Prairie, Jennings Environmental Education Center In Butler County](#)
- The EPIC Allegheny Odyssey - [Paddling Thru 250 Years Of American History, 75 Miles Of The Allegheny River From Warren To Emlenton July 26 to Aug. 1](#) [PaEN]

NewsClips:

- Erie Times: [Presque Isle State Park Beaches To Get Federal Funding For Sand Replenishment In Reversal](#)
 - Inquirer: [Popular But Deadly Glen Onoko Falls Trail In Carbon County Will Reopen In The Poconos](#)
 - PennLive: [PA House Passes Bill Targeting Illegal Dirt Bikes, ATVs](#)
 - TribLive: [Part Of Great Allegheny Passage To Close Next Month For Landslide Repairs](#)
 - LancasterOnline: [4 Projects Getting Southcentral PA Closer To A Connected Trail System](#)
 - Post-Gazette: [The Scoop On Pennsylvania's Ice Cream Trail](#)
 - PA Capital-Star: [E-Scooters Are Everywhere In PA, This Legislation Would Make Them Legal](#)
 - WVIA: [Health Officials Urge Prevention During Tick Bite Spike For NE PA Residents](#)
 - Williamsport Sun Editorial: [Ways To Deal With A Band Year For Ticks](#)
 - WHYY: [Federal Court Ruling Clears Way To Replace Slavery Exhibit In Philadelphia At President's House Site, Handing President A Win](#)
 - Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: [US Senate Advances America The Beautiful Act, Aiming To Renew Critical Funding For Public Lands](#)
 - Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)
- [Posted: June 16, 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--

Anything Can Happen: June State Budget Marathon Happening NOW!

House/Senate Bills Moving

House

Virtual Power Plants: [House Bill 2264](#) (Davidson-D-Cumberland) to establish a framework for a virtual power plant to use existing energy resources more effectively, increase grid reliability and address rising energy bills was reported out of the House Appropriations Committee and

passed by the House by a vote of 107 to 95-- Republicans voting no. The bill now goes to the Senate for action.

Nuclear Power Plant Fees: [House Bill 2450](#) (Mehaffie-R-Dauphin) increases fees on nuclear power plants to support oversight by DEP was reported out of the House Appropriations Committee and passed by the House by a vote of 199 to 3- Republicans voted no. The bill now goes to the Senate for action.

Protecting Ratepayers From Excessive Utility Profits: [House Bill 2224](#) (Burgos-D-Philadelphia) setting rates for electric, natural gas, water and wastewater utilities based on the demonstrated cost of capital to provide reasonable returns for utilities while protecting ratepayers from excessive profits ([sponsor summary](#)) was reported out of the House Rules Committee, amended and referred to the House Appropriations Committee.

Procuring Grid-Scale Energy Storage: [House Bill 2380](#) (Rivera-D-Lancaster) requiring electric utilities to set targets and procure grid-stabilizing battery energy storage was amended to increase storage requirement and make other changes was reported out of the House Energy Committee by a vote of 14 to 12-- Republicans opposed-- and referred to the House Rules Committee, as all bills are this time of year.

Deadlines To Connecting Clean Energy Sources: [House Bill 2595](#) (Inglis-D-Allegheny) amends the Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act to establish deadline requirements for the interconnection safety reviews of small-scale clean energy projects was amended to slightly increase deadlines for completing reviews was amended and reported out of the House Energy Committee unanimously, with Republicans saying they still have concerns. The bill was referred to the House Rules Committee.

Adding Conditions To Receiving State Data Center Tax Credit/Nondisclosure Agreements: [House Bill 2359](#) (Ciresi-D-Montgomery) was amended in the House Energy Committee by a vote of 25 to 1 with a gut and replace amendment changing the bill to a Tax Code bill adding conditions for qualifying for the existing data center tax credit--
-- Submitting a community protection plan setting public participation and transparency requirements;
-- Submitting a project footprint report on the size of the facility, electricity generated and used, water consumption; and
-- Certifying the project has not entered into any nondisclosure agreements with local or state officials about the project.

These conditions do not apply to any data centers not applying for the state tax credit or any data centers with an electric demand of less than 10 MW.

The conditions are similar to [Gov. Shapiro's GRID Standards](#)

The bill was reported out by a vote of 23 to 3-- Republicans voting no-- and then referred to the House Rules Committee.

Republicans said they still had concerns about this bill, but voted to report the bill out of Committee to move the process along.

Adopting Governor’s GRID Standards As Conditions For Receiving State Tax Credit: [House Bill 2650](#) (Webster-D-Montgomery) amending the Tax Code to add [Gov. Shapiro’s GRID Standards](#) as conditions for receiving state data center tax credit was introduced June 16, reported out of the House Finance Committee June 17 and referred to House Rules Committee.

Pause In Local Consideration Of Data Center Proposals: [House Bill 2496](#) (Friel-D- Chester) amends the Municipalities Planning Code authorizing local governments to pause consideration of data center proposals for 180 days was amended and unanimously reported out of the House Local Government Committee and referred to House Rules Committee.

Sustainable Forestry Day: [House Resolution 378](#) (Causer-R-Cameron) designating Dec. 17, 2026 Sustainable Forestry Initiative Day was laid on the Table.

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 (June 22): [House Resolution 425](#) (Haddock-D-Lackawanna) urging Congress to suspend any efforts to pass federal legislation blocking state-level regulation of A.I. < [Click Here for full House Bill Calendar](#).

Senate (June 22): [Senate Bill 857](#) (Hutchinson-R-Venango) requiring local government approval of land purchases by Game and Fish & Boat Commission and DCNR; [House Bill 2017](#) (Giral-D-Philadelphia) reducing radiation safety/emergency fees for modular nuclear power reactors. < [Click Here for full Senate Bill Calendar](#).

Committee Meetings

House

June 22-- [House Environmental & Natural Resource Protection Committee](#) meets to consider [House Bill 2553](#) (Borowski-D- Delaware) updates the Covered Device Recycling Act for recycling electronic waste ([sponsor summary](#)). Room G-50 Irvis Building. 11:00 a.m. [Watch Online](#).

June 25-- POSTPONED. [House Energy Committee](#) holds hearing on [House Bill 2651](#) (Steele-D- Allegheny) [[text of bill](#)] amending the Municipalities Planning Code to establish fair, minimum requirements for siting renewable energy facilities that prohibit municipalities from banning this much needed form of electric generation ([sponsor summary](#)). Room 515 Irvis Building. 9:30 a.m. [Watch Online](#).

< [Click Here](#) for full House Committee Schedule.

Senate

June 22-- [Senate Appropriations Committee](#) meets to consider [House Bill 2017](#) (Giral-D-Philadelphia) reducing fees on modular and micro nuclear reactors. Rules Room [no video]. Off-The-Floor.

June 23-- [Senate Democratic Policy Committee](#) hearing on [Senate Bill 312](#) (Kane-D- Chester) protects electric utility customers by returning them to default utility provided electricity if they take no action to re-enroll in a third party electricity supplier contract ([sponsor summary](#)). Room 8E-A East Wing. 9:30 a.m. [Watch Online](#).

<> [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

June 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

June 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30

[Posted: June 21, 2026]

The Feds - New Administration

Articles and NewsClips about federal actions impacting Pennsylvania--

New Federal Administration

-- Utility Dive: [Dept. Of Defense Intervenes In Clean Air Act Lawsuit Against Use Of Gas-Fired Power Turbines To Feed Colossus 2 Data Center In Mississippi Saying It Threatens National Security](#)

-- Environmental Defense Fund: [Environmental Groups Back Lawsuit Against Dept. Of Defense Freeze On Wind Energy Projects](#)

-- AP: [President's Administrations Buys Back 4 Invenergy Wind Energy Projects For \\$765 Million, Will Invest In Natural Gas, Geothermal Ventures Instead](#)

-- Inside Climate News: [President's Administration Abandons Fight Against Wind Energy As Much Needed Clean Energy Output Surges](#)

-- PA Capital-Star: [New York Times Reports Federal ICE Plans To Sell Warehouses In Berks And Schuylkill Counties Intended For Immigrant Detention Centers](#)

- PA Capital-Star: [Schuylkill County Wrestles With Spectre Of ICE Warehouse Immigrant Detention Center Plan In Tremont](#)
- Spotlight PA: [Emails Detail How Berks County Leaders Worked Behind The Scenes After Federal ICE Warehouse Detention Facility Surprise](#)
- TribLive: [A Year Later, US Steel Workers Remain Divided Over Benefit Of Nippon Steel Takeover](#)

President's War On Iran

- **June 21:** [PA Average AAA Gasoline Prices Same As Yesterday, Now \\$4.10/Gallon - \\$.99/Gallon Higher Than On Feb. 27](#) [Beaver County Average Price Highest at \$4.57]
- **June 21:** [Average AAA Gasoline Prices: National- \\$3.93 Ohio- \\$3.84 PA- \\$4.10](#)
- **Feb. 27:** [Average AAA Gasoline Prices: National- \\$2.98 Ohio- \\$2.79 PA- \\$3.11](#)
- AP: [Higher Prices For Gasoline, Groceries And Flights Will Likely Outlast The President's War With Iran](#)
- Financial Times: [President To Allow \\$300 Billion Privately Funded Reconstruction Fund For Energy Rich Iran Contingent On Final War Settlement](#)

Federal Funding

- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership: [US Senate Advances America The Beautiful Act, Aiming To Renew Critical Funding For Public Lands](#)
- Evangelical Environmental Network Action: [US Senate Committee Advances \\$6.65 Billion America The Beautiful Act Funding To Fix National Parks, Restore Public Lands](#)

Federal Cuts, Staff Reductions

- Congressional Cuts [To Abandoned Mine Reclamation Funding Means PA To Lose \\$169.4 Million, Largest Cut Of Any State, And Our Own PA Members Of Congress Voted For It; Can We Get It Back?](#) [PaEN]

Deregulation For Industry

- ProPublica: [President Plans To Protect Methane-Leaking Conventional /Stripper Oil & Gas Wells, Hilcorp Oil & Gas Company Owner To Benefit](#) [Hilcorp Operates In PA]
- Observer-Reporter Guest Essay: [Pennsylvania Coal Makes A Comeback, Long-Term Coal-fired Power Plants Cannot Compete Economically With Cheaper Renewables](#) - By Gary Stout, Washington Attorney [[PDF of Article](#)]

Reversing Course

- Erie Times: [Presque Isle State Park Beaches To Get Federal Funding For Sand Replenishment In Reversal](#)

[Posted: June 21, 2026]

Public Participation Opportunities/Calendar Of Events

[Click Here for a list of public participation opportunities and a calendar of events.](#)

- DEP Citizens Advisory [Council Meets June 23 To Hear Presentation On Carbon Capture; Discuss Comments On DEP Act 54 Report On Damage Caused By Underground Coal Mining; Air Quality Regulations](#) [PaEN]
- **PA Oil & Gas** [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - June 20](#) [PaEN]
- **DEP Posted** [51 Pages Of Permit-Related Notices In June 20 PA Bulletin](#) [PaEN]
- Reminder: [June 23 In-Person DEP Hearing On Stormwater Permit For Mora Solar LLC 390-Acre Solar Energy Facility In Kidder Twp., Carbon County](#)
- Allegheny County [To Host June 24 Virtual Meeting Inviting Public Input On The County's First-Ever Climate Action Plan](#) [PaEN]
- Reminder: [PUC Hearings On PPL Data Center Transmission Line Project In Luzerne County June 30](#)
- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)
- Guest Essay: [For America's 250th, Let's Return Power To The Town Square - The Right To Plan Our Future, Protect Our Backyards, Have A Seat At The Table](#) - By David M. Sanko, [PA State Association Of Township Supervisors](#) [PaEN]
- TribLive Editorial: [Latest Examples Of Efforts To Narrow Public Discourse Should Be Opposed](#)

[Posted: June 21, 2026]

Grants & Awards

[Click Here for grants, awards, recognition programs and contest deadlines.](#)

- PennDOT [Now Accepting Applications For National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Grants In Western And Southeast PA; June 25 Webinar For Western Applicants](#) [PaEN]
- DCNR Grants News: [Epic Allegheny Odyssey; Celebrating 10 Million Trees; US Fish & Wildlife Service Highlands Conservation Funding Available](#)

[Posted: June 21, 2026]

PA Bulletin Public Notices - June 20

Highlights of the environmental and energy notices in the [June 20 PA Bulletin](#)--

- **PA Oil & Gas** [Industrial Facilities: Permit Notices, Opportunities To Comment - June 20](#) [PaEN]
- **DEP published** [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) inviting comments on the 2026 Annual Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan. Deadline to comment July 20.

-- **DEP published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#)** extending the deadline to June 25 to respond to its [Request For Information On Proposed Electric Generation Or Storage Projects Eligible For State Sponsorship Under PJM Expedited Interconnection Track](#).

-- **Environmental Hearing Board** published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) announcing an appeal filed by Tarah Probst and Lisa Wayland vs. DEP, PennDOT District 5-0 related to the I-80 B01 Reconstruction Project in Stroud Twp., Monroe County.

-- **DCED published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#)** announcing proposed amendments to its action plan for federal funds related to Hurricane Ida and housing disaster recovery.

-- The [Public Utility Commission](#) published [notice in the June 20 PA Bulletin](#) of a July 13 telephonic hearing on a default electric service plan and advanced metering infrastructure surcharge by the Pike County Light and Power Company. [PUC Docket No. P-2026-3062915](#)

Permits - Issued

-- **PECO Energy Company - Conowingo 5.5 Mile 230 kV Transmission Line Over Schuylkill River:** DEP issued a Chapter 105 permit for the project located in **Plymouth Meeting and Upper Merion Townships, Montgomery County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3688](#))

Permits - Comments

-- **Naval Reactors Lab Field Office - Gettis Atomic Power Laboratory:** DEP invites comments on renewal of an NPDES Wastewater Permit for discharge impacting Thompson Run ‘Bull Run’ located in **West Mifflin Borough, Allegheny County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3654](#))

-- **Pivot Energy PAL010, LLC - Solar Energy Facility:** DEP invites comments on an Individual Stormwater Permit for a 13.06 acre solar energy facility impacting Leggetts Creek and Exceptional Value Wetlands located in **Scott Twp., Lackawanna County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3656](#))

-- **Solar Renewable Energy LLC - UPMC Cole Solar Energy Facility:** DEP invites comments on an Individual Stormwater Permit for a 20.8 acre facility impacting Mill Creek located in **Eulalia and Sweden Townships, Potter County**. ([PA Bulletin, page 3657](#))

[PA Bulletin - June 20, 2026](#)

Note: The Department of Environmental Protection published 51 pages of public notices related to proposed and final permit and approval/ disapproval actions in the [June 20 PA Bulletin - pages 3642 to 3693](#).

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: June 19, 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](#).

Also take advantage of these related publications--

[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.

[Twitter PA Environment Digest Feed](#): Instant news updates.

[BlueSky](#): Instant news updates

[PA Environment Digest Facebook Page](#): Instant news updates

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DHess@PaEnvironmentNews.com.

Supporting Member PA Outdoor Writers Assn.; PA Trout Unlimited; PA Organization For Watersheds & Rivers

PA Environment Digest is a supporting member of the [PA Outdoor Writers Association](#), [PA PA Council Trout Unlimited](#), [Organization for Watersheds & Rivers](#) and the [Doc Fritchey Chapter Trout Unlimited](#).

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.**