



Environmental News

enviodelco.org

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Welcome to the February issue of the Delaware County Environmental Clearinghouse newsletter, which brings you local and national environmental news and events. As of now, the newsletter is being sent to the leaders of Delaware County environmental organizations. We urge you to forward the newsletters to your members so they can sign up for it as well. And please visit our website, enviodelco.org. *The Clearinghouse Team.*

[Check out these Upcoming Events on enviodelco.org!](#)

[Follow Trump Admin Rollbacks on Harvard Law School Regulation Tracker](#)

The Regulatory Tracker of the Environmental & Energy Law Program of Harvard Law School explains the regulatory steps to advance clean energy deployment and environmental protection, and provides an up-to-date and concise summary of both regulatory and litigation actions. They've also compiled a [list of trackers](#) from other organizations. [Read more...](#)



Environmentalists Take Monroe Energy to Task at DEP Hearing

The people of the Chester-Marcus Hook industrial corridor are fed up with government permits that allow the polluting industries along the corridor to continue to spew high levels of pollutants into the air. They are also fed up with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (PA DEP) own procedures for public hearings that don't clearly explain the impact of new permits or allow the public to ask questions to better understand them. That was the message that about 18 speakers delivered to the DEP at a public hearing Jan. 30 at the Marcus Hook Community Center over Monroe Energy's request for a RACT III permit. [Read more...](#)



[Proposed Elevated Boardwalk to Link Upper Darby and Lansdowne](#)

Kathleen E. Carey, Delaware County Daily Times – Feb. 6, 2025

It may take some time but Delaware County wants to connect Upper Darby and Lansdowne, with an elevated boardwalk. The project would see the extension of the Darby Creek trail by extending where it ends near the Kent dog park in Upper Darby through a 0.4-mile elevated boardwalk network that would connect with Scottdale Road. [Read more...](#)

[Trump Shuttters, Dismantles Environmental Justice Program](#)

Washington Post – Feb. 6, 2025

The administration plans to close the Environmental Protection Agency's environmental justice office and remake the Justice Department's environmental division. In a little over two weeks, the Trump administration has taken unprecedented steps to shutter or remake federal offices focused on the environment, causing turmoil and confusion for current and former employees. [Read more...](#)



[Trump Admin Attack on Clean Energy Imperils Hundreds of Billions in Federal Grants](#)

Canary Media – Jan. 30, 2025

The Trump administration **launched** and then **pulled back** a far-reaching attempt to halt the flow of Congressionally mandated funds to causes the president opposes. But while the administration walked back this sweeping order that affected trillions of dollars for programs from Medicaid to Head Start, it has not pulled back an earlier one focused specifically on **freezing climate spending** from the Inflation

Reduction Act and 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law. That means the hundreds of billions of dollars in energy, climate, and environmental spending authorized by those laws remains at risk. [Read more...](#)



[PA EV Drivers to Start Paying \\$200 Fee in April](#)

PA Capital-Star — Jan. 15, 2025

Pennsylvania gets nearly three-quarters of its highway maintenance funding from state and federal fuel taxes. But with electric vehicles becoming more popular (and internal combustion engine vehicles becoming more efficient) revenue generated from those taxes is on the decline. This April, electric vehicle owners will begin paying an additional registration fee to help pay for wear and tear on Pennsylvania roads. It will replace the alternative fuels tax, which is essentially an honor system for electric vehicle users to pay a mileage tax and is poorly enforced. [Read more...](#)



[Trump Wants to End Federal EV Charger Program, Can He?](#)

Canary Media — Jan. 30, 2025

President Donald Trump has vowed over and over to undo the Biden administration's policies supporting the U.S. electric vehicle industry, which he's consistently and incorrectly described as an "EV mandate." Recently, the Trump administration took aim at its first target in that mission: federal programs offering \$7.5 billion in grants to build EV chargers across the country.

The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program and the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program were singled out in a much broader executive order that instructs federal agencies to temporarily halt all payments from the climate and energy programs created by the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act and the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law. The order gives White House officials final discretion over if or when those payments may resume. But experts say federal agencies can't legally hold back funds authorized by Congress and structured

as “mandatory” grants, as the NEVI program was in the 2021 infrastructure law. Attempts to restrict those funds will likely expose the federal government to legal challenges. [Read more...](#)

Follow [Climate.gov](#) for a one-stop government site for climate news, information, features and maps monitoring climate change around the world.

[U.S. Appeals Court Overturned Trump LNG by Rail Rule Jan. 17](#)

Delaware Riverkeepers Network — Jan. 17, 2025

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit Court overturned the LNG by Rail Rule adopted by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration under the Trump Administration. [Read more...](#)



[Another Ingenious Idea; Floating Solar, It's Being Done in Asia and Could Be Done Here](#)

Canary Media — Jan. 27, 2025

A new report outlines the country’s ample “floatovoltaics” opportunity. Floating solar arrays have already taken off in some Asian and European countries. [Read more...](#)



[Coal-Powered Electric Plants Were on the Way out until Data Mining Caused Demand to Skyrocket](#)

Floodlight – Jan. 8, 2025

Coal-powered generation of electricity has steadily declined in the United States over the past 15 years, driven out by cheaper fuel sources including natural gas, wind and solar — cutting a main source of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.

In the meantime, however, estimates of U.S. electricity demand in 2029 have increased nearly five-fold from those made just a few years ago, fueled by demand from data centers and other high-energy-using industries. Many utilities see keeping coal around — including as a backup to intermittent power sources such as wind and solar — as a potential solution.

A Floodlight analysis of power plant data shows that owners or operators of more than 30 U.S. coal plants, in states from Wisconsin to West Virginia, plan to delay their retirement, while others are weighing the option. That is pushing up utility bills — and slowing progress on cutting dangerous greenhouse gas emissions. [Read More...](#)

[U.S. Clean Energy Revolution is Real](#)

Canary Media – Jan. 7, 2025

The country has made major gains in solar panel and battery cell manufacturing over the last four years, but self-sufficiency remains far away. [Read More...](#)



TAKE ACTION!

[Follow Environmental Bills in Congress and the Pennsylvania Legislature on Our Legislation Page](#)

This section of the Delaware County

TAKE ACTION!

[Tell Our U.S. Senators to Vote 'No' on the Tree-Killing "Fix Our Forests" Act](#)

Environment America

Environmental Clearinghouse website features pending state or federal legislation likely to affect the local environment. Both Congress and the Pennsylvania Legislature have started new sessions as of Jan. 3, 2025. We will post new environmental legislation as it is introduced. [Read more...](#)

The so-called "Fix Our Forests" Act will open the door to logging on millions of acres of federal land. If this misleadingly-named bill becomes law, it will immediately roll back vital protection for endangered species and accelerate logging. Send a message to your U.S. senators urging them to vote "no" on the tree-killing "Fix Our Forests" Act. [Read more...](#)

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Clearinghouse

DELAWARE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARINGHOUSE

PO Box 131 • Wallingford, PA 19086
envirodelco.org

League of Women Voters of Central Delaware County | PO Box 131 | Wallingford, PA 19086 US

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