



Pennsylvania  
**Emergency Management Agency**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

**DATE:**

March 5, 2026

**TO:**

The Honorable Josh Shapiro  
Governor, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**FROM:**

Randy Padfield  
Director, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA)

**TIME PERIOD:**

This report covers the period from 0600 hours, March 4, through 0600 hours, March 5, 2026.

**STATUS REPORT:** (as of 0600 hours)

**THREAT STATUS:**

**National Terrorism Advisory System:**

None

**Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Status:**

Normal Operations

**County EOC Activations:**

None

**Municipal EOC Activations:**

None

**CAPABILITIES STATUS:**

**PA All-Hazards Type-3 Incident Management / Team:**

Mission Capable

**PA-Task Force 1 (PA-TF1):**

Mission Capable

**INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS:**

**Major Road Closures:**

None

**Power Outage Reports:**

As of 0530 hours, 2,377 customers

**Telephone Outage Reports:**

4,628 Frontier customers in Luzerne County

**SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:**

## **OPEN:**

### **MISSING ENDANGERED PERSON ADVISORY (MEPA) – Montgomery County, 3/4/26**

– A MEPA was issued by the Pennsylvania State Police, on behalf of the Cheltenham Township Police Department, who is searching for a 77-year-old Black male, described as five feet six inches tall, 185 pounds, with black and gray hair and brown eyes, who was last seen near Old Cedarbrook Road, Cheltenham Township, on 3/4/26 at 1500 hours. Police believe this person may be at special risk of harm or injury or may be confused.

### **MISSING ENDANGERED PERSON ADVISORY (MEPA) – Franklin County, 3/4/26 – A**

MEPA was issued by the Pennsylvania State Police, Chambersburg Station, who is searching for a 60-year-old white male, six feet one inch tall, 245 pounds, with gray hair and hazel eyes, who was last seen near Hades Church Road in Antrim Township on 3/4/26 at 0000 hours. He was operating a 2013 blue Ford Edge with a Pennsylvania registration. Police believe this person may be at special risk of harm or injury or may be confused.

### **TRAIN DERAILMENT – Lackawanna County, 3/4/26 – A**

Reading and Northern Railroad train derailed near Stauffer Industrial Park in the City of Scranton. One locomotive and three railcars derailed. The locomotive sustained damage to a fuel tank, resulting in a diesel fuel leak of approximately 150 gallons spilled onto the ballast before being mitigated by the Scranton Fire Department. The railcars were carrying wine with no reported issues. Advanced Oil responded to offload the remaining diesel fuel from the locomotive. Staff from the DEP regional office also responded to the scene.

### **REFINERY FIRE – McKean County, 3/3/26 –**

Emergency crews responded to an explosion and subsequent fire at the American Refinery Group (ARG), a SARA Tier II facility, located at 77 North Kendall Avenue, in the City of Bradford. A second alarm was requested, however the ARG Fire Brigade had the bulk of the fire knocked down before the first outside unit arrived. An unknown number of plant personnel were evacuated. Power is out to part of the facility. There were no initial reports of a hazardous materials release, but booms were deployed in nearby Tunungwant Creek as a precaution. There were no offsite evacuations or shelter-in-place orders issued. An estimated 5,000 to 10,000 gallons of naphtha and hydrogen were released from process piping within a gasoline production unit due to a breach in process equipment. The material ignited, causing the fire, and was ultimately combusted into the atmosphere.

### **COMMERCIAL FIRE AND HAZMAT – York County, 2/25/26 –**

Emergency crews responded to a fire at the J and K Salvage Yard, located at 1099 Kings Mill Road in Spring Garden Township. Initial reports included at least one building and multiple tractor trailers on fire, which was placed under control in just over three hours. York County HAZMAT team, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) responded to address containment and mitigation of hazardous materials released due to the fire. A boom trailer was deployed to assist with containment and the safe drinking water program made all downstream notifications along the Codorus Creek. County, DEP, and EPA representatives remain engaged in mitigation and cleanup efforts. As of 2/26/26, this incident was reopened by the county due to a sheen and product spotted downstream from the scene. The County HAZMAT team, PA DEP, and EPA remain involved in remediation efforts and are continuing to work on cleanup. On 2/27/26, the EPA called in additional resources to assist with an unknown quantity of lithium-ion batteries. This is currently their top concern, due to the risk of a rekindle. As of 2/28/26, the batteries have been removed from the site. As of 3/01/26, EPA has elevated this to a major incident and the unified command group is meeting daily to establish priorities and update on progress. Incident Management Teams (IMTs) from both the EPA and the South-Central Task Force

have been requested, and air monitoring operations have been expanded with assistance from the United States Coast Guard (USCG). PA Fish and Boat Commission and the PA Game Commission are monitoring potential wildlife effects and will engage with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, if necessary.

**ADVERSE WEATHER – Statewide, 2/21/26–2/23/26** – A complex winter storm brought accumulating snow, gusty winds, hazardous travel conditions, and scattered infrastructure impacts across much of the Commonwealth. Governor Josh Shapiro signed a statewide Disaster Emergency Declaration on 2/22/26. The Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) activated to Partial Activation while multiple eastern counties activated Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) at varying levels to support situational awareness and resource coordination. Several counties and municipalities, including Bucks, Delaware, and Philadelphia Counties, issued disaster declarations. Liaison Officers from the PEMA Eastern Area Office and the Pennsylvania National Guard supported Philadelphia OEM operations, with additional virtual support provided to surrounding counties. Significant transportation impacts were reported statewide. A commercial motor vehicle (CMV) overturned on I-81 northbound at mile marker 35.1 in Penn Township, Cumberland County, closing the roadway at Exit 29 (PA-174). A PA Connect Wireless Emergency Alert was issued to motorists in the trapped queue to address unmet needs; the queue has since been released and the roadway reopened. Another CMV overturned on I-180 eastbound in Northumberland County which caused a diesel fuel spill and roadway closure with detours established. Numerous secondary roadways were impacted, including PA-287 in Tioga County, PA-272 in Lancaster County, and PA-34 in Perry County; all have since reopened. PennDOT implemented widespread commercial vehicle and speed restrictions during the storm. As conditions improved on 2/23/26, restrictions were progressively lifted statewide, including Tier 4 commercial vehicle restrictions and 45 mph speed restrictions on multiple interstates and major routes. By late afternoon on 2/23/26, all tiered vehicle restrictions and most speed restrictions had been lifted. Power and infrastructure impacts were reported across several counties. The Delaware County 911 Center operated on generator power due to outages. Communications tower sites in Northampton County that were previously on generator power have been restored. Riddle Hospital in Delaware County again lost one of two PECO power feeds but reported no operational impacts. Additional localized outages resulted in traffic disruptions and service issues. Public transportation and aviation experienced significant disruptions. Philadelphia International Airport reported widespread flight cancellations, and transit agencies including SEPTA and LANTA reported delays and service suspensions. Delaware County also managed a humanitarian incident at the SEPTA 69th Street Terminal after closure of the facility displaced more than 60 unhoused individuals into severe winter conditions. Emergency services transported several individuals to shelters while additional warming resources were requested. As conditions improved, counties began demobilizing operations. Chester and Montgomery Counties deactivated their EOCs earlier in the day, followed by Wayne County. Delaware County resumed normal operations at 1700 hours on 2/23/26. The PEMA Director authorized demobilization of the CRCC effective 1600 hours on 2/23/26. The Commonwealth Watch and Warning Center returned to Normal Status at 1600 hours and continues to monitor conditions and maintain situational awareness as recovery operations continue statewide. Philadelphia and Pike Counties returned to normal operations on 2/25/26. All counties have returned their EOCs to normal operations.

**HIGH OCCUPANCY FIRE – Northampton County, 2/20/26** – Emergency crews responded to a basement fire in the Hotel Hampton located at 462 Northampton Street, Easton City. The fire was upgraded to third alarm for personnel. Individuals were evacuated from the Hotel Hampton and two other structures 466 and 472 Northampton Street. Power was shut off city-wide after initial attempts to shut power off to the specific units were unsuccessful, resulting in 3506 customers without power. A total of 79 units from six

structures (450 - 472 Northampton Street) were impacted by the fire. The American Red Cross (ARC) established a shelter at the Paxinosa Elementary School located at 1221 Northampton Street. 45 individuals were transported to the shelter. During a news conference on 2/21/26, county emergency management related that they are working with the city to gather preliminary information related to a potential Small Business Administration (SBA) declaration. The shelter was moved yesterday to the Northampton Community College, located at 3835 Green Pond Road, with the assistance of a bus from the Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA). Demolition was halted and excavation equipment removed from the site due to the formation of sinkholes in the basements of 462 and possibly 466 Northampton Street. The county coroner will be on site during demolition due to the lack of documentation of occupants. A firefighter from Wilson Fire Department was injured during the fire, and transported to Saint Lukes Hospital – Anderson Campus, with serious injuries. Staff from ARC successfully transitioned to the Northampton Community College. Shower trailers are being considered for the new shelter due to the distance to showers from the shelter site. The City of Easton Fire Chief and local emergency management are working with the city codes office on inspections of the other buildings to determine the extent of damage due to the fire and sinkholes. On 2/20/26, the City of Easton enacted a disaster declaration. A Multi-Agency Resource Coordination Center (MARC) was held on 2/27/26 and 2/28/26 at the State Theatre Center for the Arts. Ongoing coordination meetings are occurring to determine future sheltering, if needed, as well as long-term recovery needs.

**ROAD CLOSURE – Clearfield County, 2/19/26** – A commercial vehicle hauling 45,200 pounds of K061 dust, a hazardous waste byproduct of electric arc furnace steel production, crashed and left the roadway on Interstate 80 eastbound at mile marker 111. The roadway was closed at Exit 111 so crews could clean up approximately seven to eight tons of the spilled product. There was no trapped queue or injuries reported. A contractor was hired to provide cleanup services. The roadway reopened in about five hours. On 2/20/26, the contractor returned and conducted cleanup operations and vehicle recovery. A lane restriction is in place along I-80 during operations. The determination to conduct soil remediation is yet to be determined. On 2/21/26, the lane restriction was lifted.

**MEDICAL FACILITY INCIDENT – Pike County, 2/18/26** – On 2/17/26, a total of 13 residents were transported from Belle Reve Senior Living at 404 East Harford Street in Milford Township, to area hospitals for evaluation and treatment after a complaint follow-up by the Pike County Area Agency on Aging. The remaining patients of the facility were checked by the agencies on scene, and it was determined there were no further interventions needed. The investigation was turned over to the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and the Pike County District Attorney's Office. During a coordination call with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (PA DHS) on 2/18, it was reported that 11 residents had been transported. Ten of the residents have since been returned to the facility, with one kept for an unrelated issue.

**MANDATORY WATER CONSERVATION – Northumberland County, 2/12/26** – A Mandatory Water Conservation Notice was issued by the Aqua PA Roaring Creek Division due to dry weather conditions. The system uses surface water sources and provides service to the following areas: Coal Township, Ralpho Township, Zerbe Township, and Mount Carmel Township in Northumberland County; Conyngham Township, and Centralia Borough in Columbia County; Butler Township, Gordon Borough, and Girardville Borough in Schuylkill County. The notice affects approximately 26,000 service connections.

**COUNTY PRISON HEAT LOSS - Carbon County, 1/29/26** - The Carbon County Correctional Facility at 331 Broad Street in Nesquehoning Borough lost heat to one side of their facility. They have two separate HVAC systems for the facility, with the system in one

wing down. A resource request has been submitted by Carbon EMA for a for an HVAC trailer, which was filled by the Eastern PA EMS Council. On 1/30/26, the required part for repair was ordered. As of 2/13/26, work on the system continues. The Eastern Pennsylvania EMS Council heater trailer remains on site. As of 2/19/26, the heating system is still down, and the EMS Council heat trailer is still on site. As of 3/2/26, the Carbon County Commissioners have made the decision to repair the existing system, rather than replacing it. Repairs are expected to be completed by the end of the month, at which time, the HVAC trailer can be returned.

**NURSING HOME EXPLOSION – Bucks County, 12/23/25** – Emergency crews responded to an explosion, resulting in a partial building collapse with entrapment, at Silver Lake Nursing Home located at 905 Tower Road in Bristol Township. A Level Three Mass Casualty Incident was declared. The Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) transitioned to a Limited Partial Activation, and the Bucks County EOC transitioned to a Full Activation. Both have since demobilized. All facility residents are accounted for, and relocation plans have been completed. A reunification number, 888-878-5889, has been established for responsible parties to contact if seeking information about residents. A Declaration of Disaster Emergency was signed by Bristol Township in response to this incident.

**BOIL WATER ADVISORY (BWA) – Butler County, 12/23/25** – A Boil Water Advisory has been issued for Quality Life Services – Sarver, a nursing home located at 126 Iron Bridge Road in Winfield Township. The facility obtained a bulk water hauling permit and will be receiving water from a chloramine treated source. The BWA will remain in place for as long as they are hauling water into the facility.

**SINKHOLE – Fayette County, 12/17/25** – The 200 block of Lynn Road in Brownsville Township will be closed indefinitely due to the discovery of a 20-foot by 30-foot sinkhole. There are no impacts to utilities, and the residences are still accessible. On 12/18/25, Brownsville Township issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for this incident.

**MISSING ENDANGERED PERSON ADVISORY (MEPA) - Centre County, 8/27/25** – A MEPA was issued by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), Rockview Station, who is searching for a 48-year-old white male, five feet five inches tall, weighing 160 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes. He is operating a 2016 Subaru Outback, navy blue in color, bearing a Pennsylvania registration. He was last seen near Nilson Road, Benner Township, on 08/20/25 at 1200 hours. Police believe this person may be at special risk of harm or injury or may be confused.

**MISSING PERSON – Clearfield County, 7/4/25** – The Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) are searching for a 72-year-old male who has been missing from his residence on Anderson Creek Road in Union Township since 7/1/25. Local fire and a search and rescue team assisted. Clearfield County contacted PEMA operations to request a cell phone ping through the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC). The latest ping result was on 7/1/25. Search teams were able to locate the missing person's vehicle. The cell phone was not inside. The search was called off for the night and resumed in the morning. On 7/5/25, crews returned to the scene and expanded the search area. An underwater drone was used in the creek with negative results. PSP Aviation joined the search with no success. As of 7/6/25, search efforts concluded for the day and will resume 7/7/25. On 7/7/25, PSP turned the search over to the PA Game Commission. As of 7/21/25, the PA Game Commission reported that this individual is still missing. The case remains open, but there are no active searches being conducted.

**MISSING ENDANGERED PERSON ADVISORY (MEPA) – Dauphin County, 8/10/24** - A MEPA was issued by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) who are searching for a 76-year-old male who was last seen near Pheasant Road in West Hanover Township on 08/10/24 at 0810

hours. He was wearing a yellow shirt, black shorts, and white sneakers. Police believe this person may be at special risk of harm or injury or may be confused. On 8/16/24, PSP updated the clothing description of the missing individual as wearing a white shirt, black shorts, and navy-blue shoes with white soles.

## **CLOSED:**

**ADVERSE WINTER WEATHER – Statewide, 3/3/26** – A wintry mix began moving across the Commonwealth during the early morning hours of March 3, with the primary threat being ice accumulation on roadways, trees, and power lines. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) Director ordered a Limited Partial Activation of the Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) at 0200 hours to maintain situational awareness and assist with resource coordination. PennDOT instituted vehicle and speed restrictions on multiple major roadways throughout the Commonwealth as conditions deteriorated. Employees under the Governor’s jurisdiction who physically report to work in the Capitol Complex, Harrisburg Area, Philadelphia office buildings, Pittsburgh office buildings, and the Reading and Scranton State office buildings were authorized to report up to two hours after their normal start time. This authorization did not apply to essential employees assigned to 24/7 facilities. Several weather-related incidents were reported during the event. In Lancaster County, a multi-vehicle crash involving approximately six vehicles and a PennDOT plow truck occurred on US-30 westbound at the Wrights Ferry Bridge in West Hempfield Township, resulting in two injuries and a temporary roadway closure before one lane was reopened. In Clinton County, a bobtail propane truck carrying approximately 3,500 gallons overturned on PA-664 in Gallagher Township, prompting a hazardous materials response. The propane leak was secured, and the incident was later placed under control. In York County, a fire engine left the roadway due to icy conditions in West Manheim Township, though no injuries were reported. In Clearfield County, a tractor-trailer struck a guide rail on Interstate 80 east, releasing an estimated 50 to 100 gallons of diesel fuel onto soil; the spill was contained and the scene cleared without further impact. The CRCC demobilized at 1500 hours on March 3 as conditions began to improve. PennDOT continued to maintain roadway restrictions in various locations across the Commonwealth into the evening hours.

## **DISASTER DECLARATIONS:**

2/22/26 – The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bucks, Delaware, and Philadelphia Counties, and 22 municipalities have issued Declarations of Disaster Emergency in response to Winter Storm Hernando.

1/25/26 – The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 14 counties, and 427 municipalities have issued Declarations of Disaster Emergency in response to Winter Storm Fern.

5/22/25 – The U.S. Small Business Administration issued SBA disaster declaration #21090 and #21091 (PA-20019) due to severe storms and flooding that occurred on 5/13/25. The following Pennsylvania areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster: the county of Somerset and the contiguous counties of Bedford, Cambria, Fayette, and Westmoreland. This also includes the contiguous Maryland counties of Allegany and Garrett. The Physical Loan Damage Application deadline date of 7/21/25 has passed and the Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application deadline date expires on 2/23/26.

11/8/24 - A Federal Register Notice (FRN) designated the following counties for Public Assistance under Tropical Storm Debby: Cambria, Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Indiana, Lycoming, Potter, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne, and Wyoming. Union County was added to the FRN on 11/14/24.

9/11/24 - A Major Disaster Declaration was declared on 9/11/24 to supplement recovery operations in areas affected by Tropical Storm Debby on August 9-10. Individual Assistance was approved for Lycoming, Potter, Tioga, and Union Counties. The designation is FEMA-4815-DR.

8/9/24 - Governor Josh Shapiro issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency for Adams, Bedford, Berks, Bradford, Carbon, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Fulton, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Monroe, Pike, Potter, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties, due to the impacts of the remnants of Tropical Storm Debby, which caused dangerous conditions, including flash and riverine flooding across the named counties. Lycoming County issued a county Declaration of Disaster due to adverse weather. The following municipalities in Lycoming County have issued Declarations of Disaster: Anthony Township, Gamble Township, Hepburn Township, Lewis Township, Lycoming Township, McIntyre Township, Mifflin Township, Nippenose Township, Old Lycoming Township, Pine Township, Salladasburg Borough, South Williamsport Borough, and Woodward Township. The following municipalities in Susquehanna County have issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather: Choconut Township, Liberty Township, Middletown Township, and Susquehanna Depot Borough. Clymer Borough and Green Township in Indiana County have issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather. Penbrook Borough and Reed Township in Dauphin County have issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather.

9/10/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments, and individuals affected by the remnants of Hurricane IDA between 8/31/21 and 9/5/21. The declaration includes Individual Assistance to individuals and households in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and York Counties, and assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in all areas of the Commonwealth. Public Assistance is under review. The President approved the declaration on 9/10/21 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4618-DR. 9/24/21 – Amendment No. 1 designates Bedford and Northampton Counties for Individual Assistance. 10/8/21 – Amendment No. 2 designates Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery Counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). 10/14/21 – Amendment No. 3 designates Bedford, Philadelphia, and York Counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). In addition, Fulton, Huntingdon, Luzerne, and Schuylkill Counties for Public Assistance. 10/20/21 – Amendment No. 4 designates Delaware County for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance), and Dauphin County for Public Assistance.

3/30/20 - Governor Tom Wolf requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments and certain nonprofits, as well as individuals who are struggling during the COVID-19 outbreak. The request for a major disaster declaration will provide the same emergency protective measures available under the nationwide emergency proclamation; the following Individual Assistance programs: Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling, Community Disaster Loans, and the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Program; and Statewide Hazard Mitigation. The President approved the declaration on 3/30/20 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4506-DR.

11/27/18 - A Major Disaster Declaration was declared on 11/27/18 for severe storms and flooding that occurred 8/10/18 – 8/15/18. Public Assistance (Cat A-G) was approved for Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Lycoming, Montour, Northampton, Schuylkill, Sullivan,

Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming Counties. In addition, all areas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The designation is FEMA-4408-DR.

**CONTIGUOUS STATE EVENTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO PENNSYLVANIA:**

Delaware:	Normal Operations
Maryland:	Normal Operations
New Jersey:	Normal Operations
New York:	Normal Operations
Ohio:	Normal Operations
West Virginia:	Normal Operations

**24-Hour Projected Weather Statewide:**

**National Weather Service, 0428 hours, 3/5/26**

Cloudy conditions with periods of rain and areas of dense fog are expected across Pennsylvania today into tonight, with an isolated thunderstorm possible along the southern tier of the state. High temperatures today will range from the mid-60s around Pittsburgh to the upper 30s in the northern Poconos. Friday will remain mostly cloudy with spotty light rain and pockets of drizzle, with highs ranging from around 70 degrees in the Greater Pittsburgh area to the upper 30s in the northern Poconos. Rain showers are expected on Saturday, with the potential for strong to severe thunderstorms Saturday afternoon across western Pennsylvania, followed by a two-day stretch of dry weather Sunday through Monday. A more pronounced early spring warming trend is forecast this weekend into early next week as clocks advance for daylight saving time.

**WATCHES AND WARNINGS:**

None

