

culture, the Department of Natural Resources, and the University of Maryland System. By reorganization in 1992, the Office was renamed Aquaculture Development and Seafood Marketing.

AQUACULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ernest F. Tresselt, *Chairperson*, 1994
(410) 841-5724

The Aquaculture Advisory Committee was created in 1988 (Chapter 534, Acts of 1988). In consultation with the Senate Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House of Delegates Environmental Matters Committee, the Committee proposes legislation that promotes a major aquaculture industry for Maryland's tidal waters. In 1990, Committee recommendations helped create the Maryland Seafood and Aquaculture Loan Fund for expanding aquaculture or modernizing the seafood processing industry (Chapter 511, Acts of 1990).

The Committee consists of twenty-one members. Twelve are appointed to three-year terms by the Governor. Other members include a State senator designated by the Senate President; a delegate designated by the House Speaker; one representative each of the Departments of Agriculture, and Natural Resources, designated respectively by the Secretaries of those departments; a representative of the Tidewater Administration, designated by the Secretary of Natural Resources; and a representative of the University of Maryland College of Agriculture, designated by the Chancellor of the University of Maryland System. The Secretaries of Economic and Employment Development, the Environment, and Health and Mental Hygiene each designate a nonvoting member to represent their respective departments (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 10-1301, 10-1302).

SEAFOOD MARKETING

F. William Sieling III, *Chief*
(410) 841-5820

Seafood Marketing began in 1976 as an office within the Division of Economic Development under the Department of Economic and Community Development. In 1987, the Office of Seafood Marketing was transferred to the Department of Agriculture as Seafood Marketing Services. It was renamed Seafood Marketing Section in 1988, and simply Seafood Marketing in 1992.

Seafood Marketing promotes increased distribution and consumption of Maryland seafood. It also seeks efficient methods to reduce cost and improve the quality and marketability of seafood. Seafood Marketing publishes the *Maryland Seafood Directory* which lists processors, wholesalers, distributors, and seafood market suppliers for a full range of seafood and aquaculture products.

SEAFOOD MARKETING ADVISORY COMMISSION

William R. Woodfield, Jr., *Chairperson*, 1997
(410) 841-5770

In 1987, the Seafood Marketing Advisory Commission was created within the Department of Agriculture (Chapter 308, Acts of 1987). The Commission assists Seafood Marketing.

The Commission has thirteen members. The Governor appoints eleven members with Senate advice and consent and with the advice of the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture or designee, and the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee are nonvoting, ex officio members. Members serve four-year terms (Code Agriculture Article, sec. 10-1101).

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Douglas H. Wilson, *Director*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-5881

Under the Office of the Secretary, the Office of Administrative Services oversees the Department's fiscal, personnel, data processing and central services, as well as the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

Dan C. Shortall, Jr., *Chairperson*, 1996
Paul W. Scheidt, *Executive Director*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-5860

The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation was created in 1977 (Chapter 784, Acts of 1977). The Foundation implements the Agricultural Land Preservation Program. The Program's intent is to preserve productive agricultural land and woodland in Maryland, provide for the continued production of food and fiber, curb the extent of urban sprawl, and protect agricultural land and woodland as open space. The Program depends on the cooperation of county governments, which appoint local agricultural preservation advisory boards. Participation in the Program is voluntary on the part of landowners.

By agreement with the Foundation, landowners may initiate the creation of an Agricultural Preservation District in which subdivision and development are restricted for at least five years. The creation of such a district protects normal agricultural activities and enables landowners to make application to sell a development rights easement. Based upon the availability of funds allocated by the