

**The Department**

Director: Paul W. McKee

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The Department of Water Resources was created by Chapter 73, Acts of 1964, upon the recommendation of the State Planning Department and on the basis of recommendations made in 1961 as a result of a study of the future administration of Maryland water resource activities. The water pollution control functions of the predecessor agency, the Water Pollution Control Commission, originally created by Chapter 697, Acts of 1947, were transferred in their entirety and without substantial change to the new Department. The Department also took over certain powers and duties previously exercised by the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources (which itself was reorganized and renamed Maryland Geological Survey). The Department replaces the abolished Water Pollution Control Commission as a member department of the Board of Natural Resources.

Also created at the same time was the Water Resources Commission which consists of five members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Chairman has an indefinite term. He is designated by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. Initially, Commission members were appointed to staggered terms of 1 to 4 years; subsequent appointments will be for terms of four years each.

The Department is responsible for supervising and planning the multiple purpose development of the waters of Maryland, including the making of surveys, maps, and investigation of the water resources. A joint study with the Departments of Game and Inland Fish and Chesapeake Bay Affairs, to define boundaries of tidal and nontidal waters, is specifically authorized. In addition, the Department has assigned functions in the appropriation of waters (both surface and ground); the construction of reservoirs, dams and waterway obstructions; the abatement of water pollution; the drilling of wells and the licensing of well drillers; and the development of a long range flood control program.

The Commission is responsible for the promulgation of rules and regulations, and acts in an advisory capacity to the Director (Code 1957, 1965 Supp., Art. 96A).

Appropriations	1965	1966
General and Special Funds.....	\$342,392	\$363,223
Staff: 24.		

**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Gordon M. Cairns

Ex officio members: T. B. Symons, State Board of Agriculture; Irvin C. Haut, Director, Agricultural Experiment Station; Edward W. Aiton, Director, Agricultural Extension Service; Spencer P. Ellis, Director, Department of Forests and Parks; George B. Shields, Director, Department of Game and Inland Fish; Edward R. Keil, State Conservationist, U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

Appointed members: T. Walter Denny, 1966; Wilbert R. Paul, 1966.  
William J. Horvath, Executive Secretary

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