

The Department

Kenneth N. Weaver, Director

The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore 21218 Telephone: 235-0771
Telephone: 235-1792

The Maryland Geological Survey was established by Chapter 73, Acts of 1964, to supersede the Department of Geology, Mines, and Water Resources, created by Chapter 508, Acts of 1941, to supersede the State Geological and Economic Survey Advisory Commission, the Water Front Commission, and the Water Resources Commission. The Survey was placed in the Department of Natural Resources by Chapter 154, Acts of 1969.

The Department is headed by a Director appointed by the Governor, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Natural Resources. A Commission composed of five members appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources acts in an advisory capacity to the Director with respect to matters under the jurisdiction of the Survey.

The Department supervises topographic, geologic, hydrographic and geophysical surveys. It prepares topographic, geologic, and such other maps as may be necessary to meet specific needs. It makes reports on the extent and character of the State's geology, mineral and water resources. The Survey publishes from time to time County Geologic Reports, Reports of Investigations, Water Resources Basic Data Reports, Bulletins, Educational Series and Information Circulars. The Survey also publishes County topographic maps, County geologic maps, a State geologic map, a State planimetric map and other miscellaneous maps and charts.

In cooperation with the United States Geological Survey, it makes surveys of the water resources of the State. It also cooperates with the Federal Survey in certain geological and geophysical mapping projects. The Survey carries out research and investigations of coastal estuarine problems relating to erosion and sedimentation along bay and ocean shorelines.

As part of its regulatory functions, the Survey licenses gas well drillers and issues a permit for each gas or oil well to be drilled in the State. The Survey also makes and enforces rules to conserve the State's oil and gas resources. The Bureau of Mines is attached to the Maryland Geological Survey, and is subject to the general supervision of the Director of the Geological Survey. The Bureau of Mines supervises all the regulatory functions dealing with the mining of bituminous coal in Western Maryland (Natural Resources Article, secs. 20-101 to 2-204; 6-101 to 6-302; 675-695).

The Division of Archaeology was created by Chapter 541, Acts of 1968 to engage in research into the archaeology of the State and to encourage and coordinate archaeological research and investigation undertaken by other societies, institutions, museums, etc. The same Act created an Advisory Committee on Archaeology to advise the Survey. The Division is headed by the State Archaeologist. The Survey, through its Division of Archaeology, may grant permits for archaeological investigation on lands owned or controlled by the State to any person or institution who, in the judgment of the Survey, is properly qualified to conduct such investigations and excavations.

Advisory Committee on Archaeology

Chairman: H. Chandlee Forman
Robert S. Cox, Paul Cresthaull, William W. Fitzhugh, John Hack
Tyler Bastian, State Archaeologist