

The Chief provides overall guidance and serves as the State's authority on matters relating to pesticide use and application (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-201 through 5-211).

PLANT PROTECTION SECTION

Dr. William F. Gimpel, Jr., *Chief*

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This Section administers programs relating to nursery inspection, plant protection and quarantine, integrated pest management, nuisance bird control, forest pest management, certified plant production, inspection and registration of honey bee colonies, and implementation of the Interstate Pest Control Compact.

Personnel in this Section serve as the State's authorities on plant pests and agricultural quarantines, and provide liaison for the Department with other State and federal regulatory officials (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-301 through 5-313, 5-501 through 5-507, 5-701 through 5-716, 5-801 through 5-805).

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Richard W. Wright, *Wicomico County*, 1987

Soil Conservation District Supervisors: George H. Godfrey, *Queen Anne's County*, 1988; W. Mitchell Digges, *Charles County*, 1989; Floyd Allred, Jr., *Cecil County*, 1990.

Ex officio: Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., *Secretary of Agriculture*; Vacancy, *Secretary of the Environment*; Torrey C. Brown, *Secretary of Natural Resources*; Raymond J. Miller, *Vice-President for Agricultural Affairs, University of Maryland*; Paul V. Twining, Jr., *Chairperson, Maryland Agricultural Commission*; Donald L. Spickler, *President, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts*.

Advisory non-voting members: Dr. Craig S. Oliver, *Director, Cooperative Extension Service*; Pearlie S. Reed, *State Conservationist, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service*.

Anne C. Sieling, *Executive Secretary*

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Established in 1937, the State Soil Conservation Committee has organized twenty-four soil conservation districts that cover the entire State except Baltimore City (Chapter 436, Acts of 1937). The Committee coordinates district work to apply scientifically sound and practical conservation measures ("best management practices") to Maryland lands. The goal is to retard erosion and non-point source pollution and to conserve soil and water. For each district, the Committee appoints four of the five persons who serve on a board of soil conservation supervisors.

The State Committee serves as liaison for districts in securing the advice and help of State and federal agencies that have resources for soil and water conservation and certain phases of related land use programs. Relevant areas of concern include non-point source pollution, watershed protection and flood prevention, siltation of streams and reservoirs, shore erosion control, highway erosion control, forest and woodland conservation and development, the protection and development of wildlife, and the development of public land areas.

The Committee consists of six *ex officio* members and five soil conservation district supervisors. District supervisor members are appointed to five-year terms by the Secretary of Agriculture from recommendations made by the districts represented (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 8-101 through 8-501).

SOIL CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATION

Rosemary Roswell, *Administrator*

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The Soil Conservation Administration is responsible for administering the Department's soil and water conservation program and implementing State policies that further the control of soil erosion and agriculturally related non-point source water pollution.

The Administration provides resources to the twenty-four Soil Conservation Districts in the State. Financial assistance and State personnel are made available to support programs that provide technical assistance to the agricultural community. Through these programs, soil and water conservation plans are developed for agricultural landowners and farm operators, and agricultural "best management practices" are promoted.