

Executive Director: Dr. Sarah J. Taylor

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The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission was created in 1984 (Chapter 794, Acts of 1984). The Commission is concerned with a 1,000-foot strip around the Bay and its tributaries. It is this planning area that is critical to the survival of the Bay's tidal waters, fish, wildlife, and plant habitats.

The Commission oversees the preparation of land-use plans by local governments to regulate undeveloped land use along the Bay's shores and tributaries. The Commission has authority to intervene in local development plans if it determines the Bay may be endangered. Periodically, the Commission meets with the General Assembly Joint Committee on Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas.

Commission members are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. They number twenty-five members, including five ex officio, voting members or their designees. (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 8-1801 through 8-1816).

UPPER POTOMAC RIVER COMMISSION

Chairperson: John J. McMullen, Jr., 1989

Robert L. Kalbaugh, *Allegany County*, 1989; John Adams, Jr., *Garrett County*, 1989.

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The Upper Potomac River Commission was established in 1935 (Chapter 409, Acts of 1935). It supervises the Savage River Dam, which regulates the flow of the Potomac River. The Commission has jurisdiction over the water resources of Allegany County and of Election District 4 (Bloomington) in Garrett County.

The Commission consists of three members appointed for six-year terms. The Governor appoints the chairperson, and the Allegany County and Garrett County Boards of County Commissioners each appoint one member.

CAPITAL PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

Michael J. Nelson, *Assistant Secretary*

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The Capital Programs Administration operates five programs: Land Planning Services, Shore Erosion Control, Program Open Space, Land Management and Recreation Services, and Capital Development.

LAND PLANNING SERVICES

Robert L. Beckett, *Director* Telephone: 974-3656

Land Planning Services provides planning, mapping, environmental review, and capital budget services for the Department's acquisition, development, and resource management of public lands and scenic rivers. These services are offered through four primary projects: Resource Planning, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Acquisition Graphics and Research, and Capital Budget Planning.

The Resource Planning Project develops master plans for new State parks or for a recreation use and modification of existing State parks. Resource Planning also conducts detailed property reviews for proposed new Department areas, environmental reviews for many Department projects and lands, and master facilities plans for areas without approved master plans.

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Project prepares resource management plans for the nine rivers that comprise the scenic and wild rivers system. It promotes the wise use of the rivers' land and water resources, and improves resource conservation measures. Planners work with local citizen advisory boards to develop resource recommendations that local governing bodies may use.

The Acquisition Graphics and Research Project researches property records (deeds, surveys, land patents) and prepares project boundary maps for all Department lands. These maps include properties in the authorized acquisition program, as well as properties owned by the Department and lands not yet acquired. Acquisition Graphics reviews and updates all project boundary maps it prepares.

The Capital Budget Planning Project prepares the Department's annual Capital Budget request.