

in a certificate. The regulations are intended to inform the public and provide guidance to potential applicants.

The Board permits and encourages public participation in the review process through publication of site applications, public informational meetings and hearings, and adjudicatory hearings.

The Board consists of eight members appointed by the Governor. The Maryland Association of Counties, Maryland Municipal League, and Maryland Chamber of Commerce each nominate one member. Of the remaining four members, two must be from the scientific community, one of whom is a geologist, and two must be members of the general public, one of whom has a demonstrated record of involvement in environmental matters. The Board represents the various geographical regions of the State. No two members may be from the same county (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 3-701 through 3-713).

A brochure describing the Board's membership, purpose, powers, statutory considerations, and review process, as well as certain technical publications are available from the Secretary.

NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE FORCE

Col. Jack T. Taylor, *Superintendent*

Tawes State Office Building
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 974-2247/3181

Created in 1972, the Natural Resources Police Force traces its beginnings to 1868, when the State Oyster Police Force was formed to enforce State oyster laws. Legislation enacted in 1874 brought all forces afloat under the Commission of Fisheries and named the new unit the State Fishery Force. In 1922, the Force became a part of the Conservation Department and was known as the Maryland Patrol and Inspection Fleet. The marine enforcement activities of the Natural Resources Police Force originated from responsibilities of the early fleets.

From a wildlife and inland fisheries standpoint, the creation of the post of State Game Warden in 1896 was the benchmark for a system that would bring greater uniformity to the enforcement of conservation laws across the State. Following the appointment of a State Game Warden, government programs began that are responsible for today's inland enforcement activity of the Natural Resources Police. In 1922, the post of State Game

Warden became a part of the Conservation Department along with the State Fishery Force (renamed the Maryland Patrol and Inspection Fleet). In 1939, the Conservation Department was split into two separate departments: the Department of Tidewater Fisheries, and the Game and Inland Fish Commission (later the Department of Game and Inland Fish). The Marine Enforcement Fleet then was named the Division of Inspection and Patrol. In 1962, it became the Maryland State Marine Police, responsible for enforcing the Maryland Boat Act of 1960. After the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs and the Department of Game and Inland Fish were abolished, the Natural Resources Police Force was created in 1972 (Chapter 348, Acts of 1972).

The Natural Resources Police Force enforces State laws and regulations pertaining to commercial seafood harvesting and sport fishing, boating, waterways pollution, and wildlife conservation. It also conducts boating and firearms training and hunting safety educational programs.

The Force inspects boats for conservation and boating violations. It also inspects seafood processing houses and trucks carrying seafood cargo. It arrests and issues warnings to violators of boating and conservation laws. The Force also investigates boating accidents and reports them to the U.S. Coast Guard.

Through enforcement of hunting and wildlife conservation laws, the Force provides the primary law enforcement service for a number of remote areas in the State, as well as emergency services when required. The Force is also the primary search and rescue agency on the waters of the State.

The Force operates the Natural Resources Police Academy at Matapeake, a central maintenance and supply facility, and an aviation unit to provide airborne surveillance and rescue services to the enforcement programs and other agencies of the Department.

TIDEWATER ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Paul Massicot, *Administrator*

Tawes State Office Building
580 Taylor Ave.
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 974-2926

The Tidewater Administration was created in 1979 (Chapter 601, Acts of 1979). The formation