

of oysters" (Chapter 314, Acts of 1886). In 1892, county commissioners were authorized "in their discretion" to supplement the Force with boats and officers at county expense (Chapter 643, Acts of 1892).

Yet, the earliest origins of the Department of Natural Resources trace to geological and mapping functions of the first State Geological Survey, which operated from 1834 to 1841. In 1896, the State Geological and Economic Survey was formed (Chapter 51, Acts of 1896). That same year, the State Game Warden's Office was created (Chapter 293, Acts of 1896). State programs for woodlands were initiated ten years later, when the State Board of Forestry was established (Chapter 294, Acts of 1906).

Conservation Commission. The State Fishery Force, the State Game Warden, and the Engineer became part of the newly formed Conservation Commission in 1916 (Chapter 682, Acts of 1916). The Commission was charged with oversight of oysters, clams, fish, crabs, terrapin, wild fowl, birds, game, and fur-bearing animals. In 1922, the Conservation Department was formed, governed by the Conservation Commission (Chapter 29, Acts of 1922; Chapter 523, Acts of 1935).

Board of Natural Resources. Conservation agencies were reorganized in 1941 under the Board of Natural Resources. The Board oversaw five departments: the Department of Tidewater Fisheries; the Department of Game and Inland Fish; the Department of State Forests and Parks; the Department of Geology, Mines, and Water Resources; and the Department of Research and Education (Chapter 508, Acts of 1941). In 1969, these agencies were consolidated to form the Department of Natural Resources (Chapter 154, Acts of 1969).

Department of Natural Resources. The Department oversees Chesapeake Bay and Watershed Programs; the Management Service; Public Lands; and the Resource Management Service. The Department also is responsible for the Maryland membership units of five interstate bodies: the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Coastal States Organization, Ohio River Basin Commission, Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, and Potomac River Fisheries Commission (Code Natural Resources Article, secs. 1-101 through 1-104).

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

John R. Griffin, *Secretary*
of Natural Resources

Tawes State Office Building, C-4
580 Taylor Ave.
Annapolis, MD 21401—2397 (410) 974-3041

The Secretary of Natural Resources heads the Department. The Secretary is appointed by the Governor with Senate advice and consent.

The Secretary serves on the Governor's Executive Council; the Governor's Council on the Chesapeake Bay; the Governor's Executive Committee on Drunk and Drugged Driving; the Governor's Pesticide Council; and the Governor's Commission on Service. The Secretary also serves on the Chesapeake Bay Commission; the Chesapeake Bay Trust; the Maryland Greenways Commission; the State Soil Conservation Committee; the Seafood Marketing Advisory Commission; the Scenic and Wild Rivers Review Board; the Patuxent River Commission; the Maryland Civil War Heritage Commission; the Interagency Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Committee; and the Interdepartmental Advisory Committee for Minority Affairs.

Under the Secretary are the Deputy Secretary and four assistant secretariats.

DEPUTY SECRETARY

Carolyn D. Davis, *Deputy Secretary*
(410) 974-3043

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES ISSUES
Vacancy, *Chair*

Contact: Carolyn D. Davis (410) 974-3043

The Advisory Council on Disabilities Issues was formed by the Secretary of Natural Resources in 1985. The Council advises the Department on issues related to the accessibility of departmental facilities, programs, activities, and jobs to disabled persons. Council members are appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources (Code Natural Resources Article, sec. 1-102(d)).

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Michael P. O'Brien, *Director*
(410) 974-3545

The Public Communications Office was reorganized in 1995. It includes the Public Outreach Section and media, marketing, Internet coordination and graphics functions.

PUBLIC OUTREACH SECTION

Barbara Knisely, *Chief*
(410) 974-3015

Public Outreach began in 1988 as the Chesapeake Bay Communications Coordinating Office within the Office of the Governor. The unit was transferred to the Department of Natural Resources in 1995 (Executive Order 01.01.1995.25).