
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Lewis R. Riley, *Secretary of Agriculture*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-5880

The Secretary of Agriculture directs the Department. The Secretary is the chief executive officer and is appointed by the Governor with Senate advice and consent. Responsible for day-to-day operations, the Deputy Secretary is appointed by the Secretary with the Governor's approval.

The Secretary serves on the Governor's Executive Council; the Governor's International Cabinet; the Governor's Subcabinet for Energy Management; the Governor's Council on the Chesapeake Bay; the Governor's Commission on Growth in the Chesapeake Region; and the Governor's Pesticide Council. The Secretary also serves on the Maryland Food Center Authority; the Interdepartmental Advisory Committee for Minority Affairs; the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation; the Maryland Winery and Grape Growers' Advisory Board; the State Soil Conservation Committee; the Scenic and Wild Rivers Review Board; the State Use Industries Advisory Committee; and the Board of Regents, University of Maryland System.

The Office of the Secretary includes the Office of the Assistant Attorney General, internal audit, intergovernmental and public information functions, Chesapeake Bay Agricultural Programs, Marketing, and Aquaculture Development and Seafood Marketing (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-101 through 2-108).

Under the Secretary of Agriculture, the Department is organized into four main offices: Administrative Services; Food Safety and Consumer Services; Plant Industries and Pest Management; and Resource Conservation. The Department also is served by the Board of Review and the Maryland Agricultural Commission. The Secretary of Agriculture appoints the State Chemist, the State Veterinarian, and the Chief of Weights and Measures.

CHESAPEAKE BAY AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Thomas W. Simpson, *State Coordinator*
(410) 841-5865

The Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1987 committed the Bay states to reducing nutrient loadings of phosphorous and nitrogen into the Bay by 40 percent by the year 2000. In Maryland, agricultural and natural resources agencies, working in tandem with farmers, have developed a plan to curb nutrient runoff from farmland. The plan sets forth goals and actions needed to meet the commitments of the Bay Agreement.

Agriculture also is significant in the tributary focus of the Bay cleanup. The Department and its agricultural partners work with farmers across the

State on nutrient reduction strategies for ten key tributary basins within the Chesapeake watershed.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Roger L. Richardson, *Chairperson*, 1996
(410) 841-5882

The Board of Review hears and determines appeals from any decision of the Secretary of Agriculture or agency of the Department subject to judicial review under the Administrative Procedure Act (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-401 through 2-405).

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

A. Orrell Saulsbury III, *Chairperson*, 1996
Laurie Green, *Executive Director*
(410) 841-5894

The Maryland Agricultural Commission was formed in 1961 as the Agricultural Advisory Board (Chapter 470, Acts of 1961). The Board was renamed the Maryland Agricultural Commission in 1968 (Chapter 552, Acts of 1968). The Commission's chief function is to advance Maryland agriculture and advise the Secretary of Agriculture on agricultural matters. The Commission proposes agricultural improvements, promotes State agricultural industries and products, and reviews legislation for its impact on agriculture.

The Commission consists of twenty members. Nineteen are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms. They include one consumer, and representatives of the dairy, poultry, livestock, tobacco, nursery, horticulture, field crops, turf, horse breeding, food processing and vegetable industries; the veterinary profession; the Maryland State Grange; the Maryland Farm Bureau; and services related to agriculture. The principal administrative officer for agricultural affairs at the University of Maryland System serves ex officio. (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-201 through 2-205).

DEPUTY SECRETARY

Henry A. Virts, D.V.M., *Acting Deputy Secretary*
50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-5881

The Deputy Secretary oversees Marketing, and Aquaculture Development and Seafood Marketing, as well as the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board, the Tobacco Authority, and the Maryland Winery and Grape Growers' Advisory Board.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL FAIR BOARD

Philip Brendel, *Chairperson*, 1994
Katrina Bradshaw, *Executive Secretary*
(410) 841-5770