



Department of the Environment

Overview of the Maryland Department of the Environment

Presented to

House Environmental Matters Committee

February 2, 2011

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Acting Secretary**





Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

MDE- Maryland's environmental protection agency

Created in 1987 through consolidation of public health and environmental programs from DHMH and DNR

A dedicated staff of 1,000 scientists, engineers, other environmental and public health professionals

Field offices in Annapolis, Salisbury, Cambridge, Frostburg and Hagerstown





Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

MDE comprised of four scientific and technical administrations:

- Air and Radiation Management
- Land Management
- Water Management
- Science Services

Coordinating Offices:

- Communications
- Emergency Planning and Preparedness
- Legislation and Policy
- Internal Audit
- Fair Practices

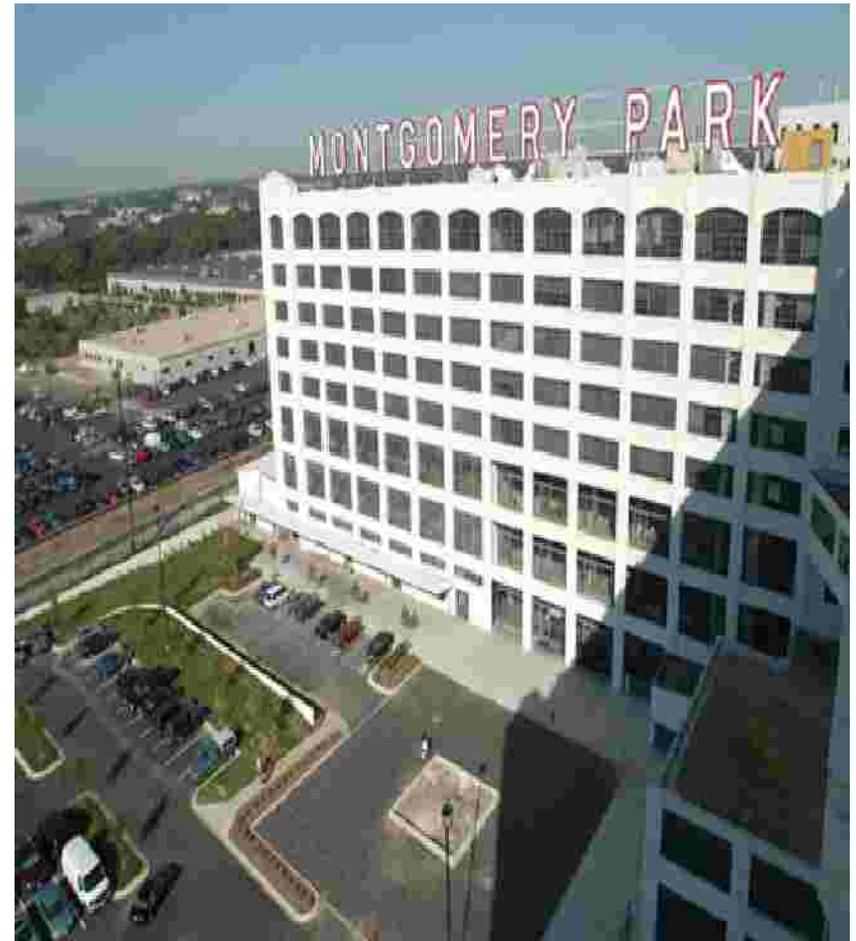




Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)

All supported by:

- Office of Budget and Infrastructure Finance
- Administrative Services
- Office of the Attorney General





Office of Budget and Infrastructure Financing

Responsibilities:

Oversight of all phases of MDE's operating and capital budgets

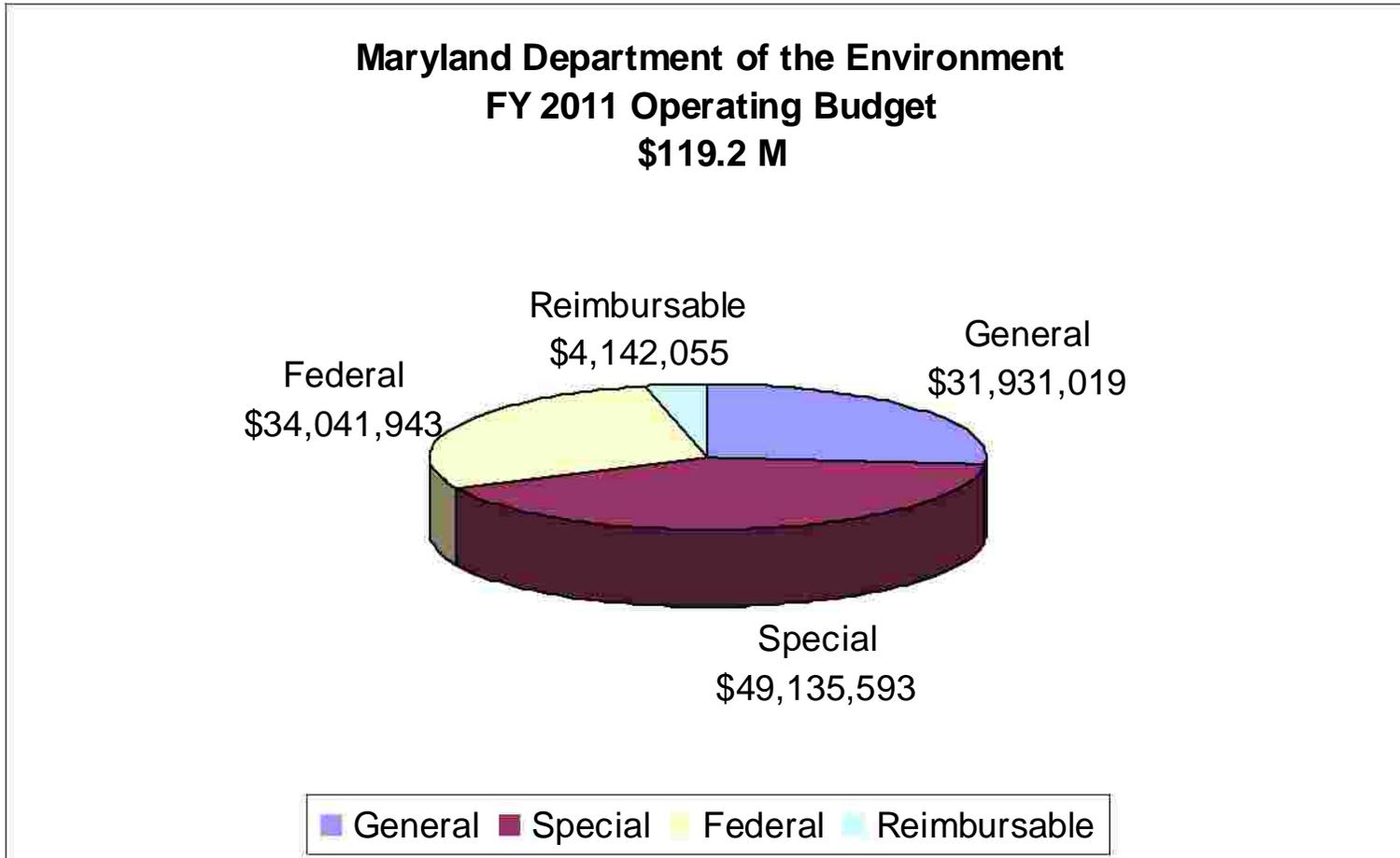
Provides technical and financial assistance to local governments and eligible applicants for capital projects financed by MDE's capital programs:

- Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund
- Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund
- Biological Nutrient Removal Program
- Bay Restoration Fund
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act





MDE Budget Overview



MDE's capital budget is \$454.2 million in grant and loan funding for environmental improvement projects





Bay Restoration Fund

BRF consists of two dedicated funds:

Wastewater treatment plant users pay \$30 per year (\$2.50/monthly) into a fund to upgrade WWTPs

Onsite sewage disposal system users pay \$30 per year (\$2.50/monthly) into a fund to upgrade septic systems and plant cover crops

Current law requires any septic system for a newly constructed building or replacement system in the critical area must include Best Available Nitrogen Removal Technology (BAT); the BRF provides assistance based on available funds

The fund is projected to have a shortfall in 2012

The BRF Advisory Committee has recommended increasing the fee from \$2.50 to \$5 per month in order to be able to complete the critical upgrades of major sewage treatment plants





Air & Radiation Management Administration

Safeguards air quality and administers state and federal air pollution control requirements through the following programs:

Air Quality Planning & Monitoring Program

- Develops plans and regulations to meet national air quality standards
- Operates statewide air sampling and monitoring network

Air Quality Permits Program

- Issues preconstruction and operating permits to sources of air pollution.

Air Quality Compliance Program

- Conducts inspections and enforces air pollution laws and regulations
- Responds to citizen complaints
- Regulates and trains persons who work with asbestos.





Air & Radiation Management Administration

Mobile Sources

- Implements the Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program with the MVA
- Implements Diesel Smoke Inspection Program with MDOT and Maryland State Police
- Works to expand the use of alternative fuel vehicles

Radiological Health

- Licenses, registers, and inspects users of radioactive materials and radiation sources
- Responds to radiation emergencies





Land Management Administration

Protecting public health from exposure to hazardous substances:

- Lead poisoning prevention
- Underground storage tanks
- Cleanup of chemical contamination in groundwater like MTBE

Administers voluntary cleanup program for brownfield sites

- Redevelopment and revitalization of formerly used properties

Oversees waste recycling and disposal

- Including solid waste management and waste source reduction, management of coal ash, CAFOs, and sewage sludge

Regulates mining activities





Marcellus Shale

Department has the authority to permit gas well drilling in the shale and collect a fee for service on permit application reviews

No permits have been issued; two applications are currently being reviewed

Department is proceeding cautiously and reviewing applications carefully to ensure that the environment, public health and public safety is protected





Water Management Administration

Ensures public drinking water systems meet water quality standards under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act

Issues permits under the federal Clean Water Act to control pollution from:

- municipal and industrial wastewater discharges
- erosion and sediment control from construction sites
- stormwater management from developments
- wetlands and waterway construction

Oversees erosion and sediment control and stormwater management programs in Maryland's counties

Protects wetland resources to ensure that these critical natural resources remain healthy to provide wildlife habitat and filter out sediment and nutrient pollution runoff from the land





Science Services Administration

Protects Maryland's high quality waters from degradation

Works with the county health departments to monitor water quality at Maryland beaches and coordinates on environmental health issues

Monitors the quality of shellfish harvesting waters, issues fish consumption advisories for recreationally caught fish

Community-Right-to-Know- compiles and disburses information on use of chemicals for benefit of communities and first responders

Performs environmental assessments across the state to support regulatory programs

Coordinates with other state agencies on redevelopment of military bases (BRAC)





Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan

Created by MDE, MDA, DNR, and MDP

Establishes water quality standards and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) to assure standards are met

Sets specific nutrient and sediment goals (allocations) for each source sector (sewage treatment plants, urban runoff, agricultural runoff, etc.) and each sub-watershed in the Bay.

Describes how those allocations will be achieved in each sector (e.g., major sewage treatment plants will be upgraded to achieve enhanced nutrient removal).

Describes how the impacts of growth and development will be offset

Sets two year milestone goals for each sector to ensure TMDL is achieved on schedule; provides “reasonable assurance” that TMDL can be achieved

Phase II is due to EPA in late fall; final draft due in early 2012





Accomplishments

Led development of the Watershed Implementation Plan, as part of EPA's Chesapeake Bay TMDL pollution diet

Enacted new regulations to reduce pollution from stormwater runoff, the fastest-growing source of Bay pollution, by requiring "environmental site design" on new development and re-development

Oversaw \$121.6 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds for 82 water quality, drinking water, and "green infrastructure" projects that created and saved jobs across the state





Accomplishments

Adopted new regulations for coal combustion byproducts to protect ground and surface water quality

Achieved compliance with air quality standards for fine particulates, ozone, and significant reductions in nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and mercury from the state's power plants

Led MD's action on climate change: chaired the Maryland Climate Change Commission, joined RGGI, the country's first cap-and-trade program, and supported Clean Cars legislation and the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act of 2009





Efficiency Measures

Created MDEStat to increase transparency and accountability, and improve performance- winner of the 2009 Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) Innovation Award.

In FY10, issued 95% of permits within published standard turnaround times

Prioritized resources to improve enforcement, resulting in a 54% increase in enforcement actions since 2007, without additional resources

Completed two major information technology projects:

- improved regulatory data management and permit tracking
- upgraded web content and its management





Looking Forward

Continue to lead the regional Bay restoration effort by:

- funding state-of-the-art wastewater treatment technology upgrades
- utilizing environmental site design to control stormwater pollution from new development and redevelopment
- establishing new stormwater control requirements for existing urban and suburban lands
- developing Phase II of the WIP

Continue to work with the other Northeast states to:

- strengthen state programs and push the EPA toward stronger federal controls to reduce transport from upwind pollution
- strengthen the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
- implement the recommendations of Governor O'Malley's Climate Change Commission

Enhance efforts to infuse Environmental Justice principals into our regulatory programs

Facilitate and encourage the emerging green job market, MDE will work to identify and facilitate permitting of new and emerging technologies





Maryland Department of the Environment

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