

Lee McDonnell, P.E.

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Qualification Highlights

- Environmental Manager with over 30 years of professional experience
- Served in multiple senior leadership positions in both state and federal government
- Retired Army Warrant Officer with significant leadership experience
- Skilled negotiator and problem solver, committed, organized, responsible, detail orientated
- Licensed Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Chief, Science Analysis and Implementation Branch – 01/2020 to present

Environmental Protection Agency Region III, Annapolis, MD

Chesapeake Bay Program Office

1750 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403

Supervisor: Director Chesapeake Bay Program Office

- Provide leadership and direct a group of over 45 scientists and technical staff that come from multiple federal government agencies, academic institutions, and contractors
- Provide advice and recommendations to management on development and use of water quality modeling tools and use of water quality monitoring data collected throughout the 64,000 square mile watershed
- Engage the various hierarchical levels of the Chesapeake Bay Partnership to deliver complex technical information and understand the needs and concerns of the partnership
- Build coalitions with the partnership to ensure that consensus decision making occurs and the goals of the partnership are advanced

Acting Director, – 01/2025 – 09/2025

Environmental Protection Agency Region III, Annapolis, MD

Chesapeake Bay Program Office

1750 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403

Supervisor – EPA Region 3 Administrator

- Led the Chesapeake Bay Program office (CBPO) through the 2025 revision of the Watershed Agreement
- Developed plans for and executed Multiple Management Board retreats to develop and finalize revisions to the Watershed Agreement
- Managed all aspects of CBPO to include budget, personnel, grant awards, Partnership support, and physical office space

Director, Bureau of Clean Water – 04/2012 – 01/2019

Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania

400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Supervisor: Deputy Secretary Water Management –

- Led and supervised a multi-disciplinary, diverse, professional staff of 96 people to include both technical (Engineers, Biologists, Geologists, Water Program Specialists) and administrative staff that performed and carried out duties under the Federal Clean Water Act and PA Clean Streams Law

- Provided vision and leadership in improving the performance of the Bureau and in advancing program outcomes by evaluating current and future workloads and developing a new organizational structure for the Bureau of Clean Water that would result in meeting the ever-expanding complexity and breadth of work that needed to be completed. Key pieces of this reorganization were creation of an NPDES permits division, focusing all compliance and enforcement activities into one division, and creating two new sections to provide training support and expertise, and GIS and general information technology support
- Collaborated with senior officials inside and outside the agency to build consensus for strategic planning purposes such as the development of the cluster notification response plan that would dictate DEP actions when notified by the PA Department of Health of a cluster of confirmed positive cases of the Zika virus
- Frequently gave presentations to supervisors and managers in my organization, business and industry officials, general public (non-technical audiences), scientists and researchers, and state and local officials concerning updates to regulations policy and guidance

Clean Water Program Manager, 02/2007 – 03/2012

Department of Environmental Protection

Southcentral Regional Office

909 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Supervisor: Director Southcentral Regional Office

- Led and supervised a multi-disciplinary, diverse, technical staff of 40 people (Engineers, Biologists, Geologists, Water Quality Specialists, Sewage Program Specialists) that perform stream assessment, sewage planning, NPDES and water quality management permitting, and compliance and inspection
- Testified at the Environmental Hearing Board and Commonwealth Court on numerous appeals of NPDES permits, orders, and related actions
- Led efforts and directed staff in many enforcement cases about compliance with NPDES permits, sewage facilities planning, and pollution releases that cause impacts to waterbodies

Chief, NPDES Permit Section, 06/2005 – 02/2007

Department of Environmental Protection, Pennsylvania

Bureau of Clean Water

400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Supervisor: Chief, Division of Wastewater Management

- Provided guidance to 6 regional offices on all aspects of the NPDES permitting program, including case specific consultation, and providing expert testimony on select issues in response to litigation against the Department
- Collaborated on the point source workgroup that evaluated and prepared reviews of scientific and technical information to support regulatory decisions which developed the Chesapeake Bay phase I watershed improvement plan point source strategy, which was implemented successfully
- Wrote and created work products for employees and managers, other federal agencies and departments, state and local governments, the general public, senior government officials, private industry, public interest groups that include but are not limited to regulations, policies, guidance documents, permits, settlement agreements, written testimony and general correspondence

Chief, Water Quality Modeling and TMDL Section 03/1998 – 06/2005

Department of Environmental Protection •
Bureau of Water Supply and Wastewater Management
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Supervisor: Chief, Division of Water Quality

- Led a group that evaluated and prepared reviews of scientific and/or technical information to develop new methods to evaluate and analyze data to complete TMDLs related to acid mine drainage and nutrient impairments
- Served on workgroups for the Chesapeake Bay Program office and the Delaware River Basin Commission to provide peer review of new methods and procedures and for water quality analysis and decision which made recommendations to higher level groups or committees
- Frequently gave presentations to supervisors and managers in my organization, business and industry officials, general public (non-technical audiences), scientists and researchers, and state and local officials concerning updates to regulations policy and guidance
- Wrote and created work products for employees and managers, other federal agencies and departments, state and local governments, the general public, senior government officials, private industry, public interest groups that include but are not limited to regulations, policies, guidance documents, permits, settlement agreements, written testimony and general correspondence

Staff Engineer, 6/1993- 2/1998

Department of Environmental Protection •
Bureau of Water Supply and Wastewater Management
400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17105

Supervisor: Chief, Division of Water Quality

- Provided technical support to regional office staff on water quality modeling issues
- Developed and used decision support tools for the implementation of the NPDES permitting program
- Provided training to DEP staff and others on the use of decision support tools (Toxics, Dissolved Oxygen, total residual chlorine (TRC) spreadsheet, Lake Eutrophication Model – all of these are tools that were developed and used in PA to implement the NPDES permitting program)
- Provided technical support to DEP regional offices and outside consultants on the use of DEP water quality decision support tools
- DEP expert on the use of decision support tools for water quality modeling and analysis in PA

Chief Warrant Officer 2, 02/2003-03/2004

United States Army, 19th CMMC, Arden Hills, MN
Deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom
Supervisor: Logistics Operation Chief,

- Developed tracking mechanisms for over 1.5 million class II items including interceptor body armor, desert combat uniforms, and cold weather and undergarment items
- Provided daily situation report that was used as briefing material for 3rd Corps Support Command and Headquarters Combined Joint Task Force- 7 (CJTF-7)
- Integrated the Prime Vendor Program (Local purchase of supplies) into the support channels for the CJTF-7 area of responsibility

Chief Warrant Officer 2**12/87-1/03 & 4/04-4/05, RETIRED**

United States Army Reserve
318th Maintenance Company,
1250 Foxhollow Road
State College, PA 16801

Supervisor: Multiple – unit disbanded 2007

- Trained and supervised approximately 17 soldiers in the tech supply section
- Served as the primary supervisor/rater for 2 soldiers and reviewing officer for 4 soldiers
- Operated the unit's tech supply mission (Maintenance Repair Parts), and served as the resident expert in the workings of the army supply system
- Performed additional duties as the officer in charge of the field sanitation team, physical security, wartime requisitioning, and mobilization readiness

Specialist Four, 12/85 - 12/87

United States Army, 24th Support Battalion, Ft. Stewart, GA

Material Storage and Handling Specialist

- Worked as a warehouseman and Forklift operator
- Served as the unit NBC (nuclear biological, chemical) expert
- Awarded the Army Commendation Medal, four Army Achievement Medals, and four letters of Appreciation

EDUCATION**Shippensburg University**

- Master of Public Administration (2016)

The Pennsylvania State University

- Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering Technology (1993)

The Pennsylvania College of Technology

- Associate of Applied Science in Technology, Civil Engineering Technology (1991)