

Josh Kurtz
Secretary, Department of Natural Resources
State of Maryland



Josh Kurtz is a lifelong outdoor enthusiast and conservationist, passionate about the beauty of our state and all of the natural resources it offers.

Under the Moore/Miller administration, Secretary Kurtz leads teams across the state, working to improve water quality and bay resilience, restore and conserve forested land, expand access to our state parks, monitor and slow the spread of invasive species, and ensure the state maintains sustainable fisheries.

Kurtz previously served as the Maryland executive director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and has also served as policy and government relations director for The Nature Conservancy in Maryland where he created and led advocacy campaigns leveraging strong relationships with partners and industry leaders to build support for policies regarding conservation and climate change in both the Maryland General Assembly and the DC City Council.

Kurtz lives in Crownsville, Maryland with his wife, Samantha, and their son. He holds a master's degree in public policy from George Mason University and a bachelor's degree in wildlife conservation from the University of Delaware.

Travis A. Voyles, Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources
Commonwealth of Virginia



Travis Voyles joined the Youngkin Administration in February 2022 and has served as the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources since March 2023. In the role of Secretary, Travis advises the Governor on natural resources issues and works to advance the Governor's top environmental priorities, overseeing five agencies that protect and restore the Commonwealth's natural and historic resources.

Travis most recently served as Oversight Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works under Senator Shelley Moore Capito of West Virginia. In his role, he served as the lead coordinator of the Committee's efforts for environmental, energy, economic development, and infrastructure issues, including primary oversight over a wide range of federal agencies programs and funding (DOT, EPA, Army Corps, DOE, FWS, NRC, EDA). He also provided cross-cutting technical and legal input on legislative efforts, including the recent Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and budget reconciliation efforts.

Prior to working in the Senate, he served in multiple appointed roles at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, including Acting Associate Administrator for the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations and Director of Oversight. In these roles he managed all congressional interactions and investigations on issues pertaining to EPA rulemakings, policies, ethics, appropriations, and the Senate confirmation process for nominees. He also served as the chief liaison between the Agency, the EPA Administrator, and other national, state, and local officials.

Travis has also worked for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. With this role, he was responsible for managing oversight

issues and policy matters relating to scientific research and development, environmental and energy regulations, and emerging cybersecurity developments.

Travis received his law degree from Florida State University with a focus on environmental, energy, and land use law. While at Florida State, he was the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law* and clerked for the Florida House of Representatives, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Atlanta BeltLine, and a private law firm. Travis also received his Master in City and Regional Planning from Georgia Tech, with a focus in economic development and environmental planning, and his Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from the University of Georgia.

Russell C. Redding
Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture



Russell C. Redding has served as Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture under Governors Josh Shapiro and Tom Wolf, and under Governor Ed Rendell for two years. He has extensive experience as a public servant, having spent more than 30 years serving Pennsylvania in Harrisburg and Washington D.C.

Under Secretary Redding's leadership, the department initiated and implemented the only state-level Farm Bill in the nation, worked to reduce food insecurity, strengthened rural and urban food systems and economies, and expanded land conservation and preservation.

He is the former dean of the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Delaware Valley University. He is a graduate of Penn State University, having earned his B.S. in Agriculture Education and M.S. in Agriculture and Extension Education.

A native of Pennsylvania, he and his wife Nina have two sons and own and operate a farm near Gettysburg.

DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship Steve Williams



[Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control](#) Secretary Shawn M. Garvin named Steve Williams as the new director to lead the DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship in 2023. Williams has served his entire 38-year career with the Department, including administrator for the DNREC's Watershed and Wetlands Assessment and Monitoring programs, watershed planning and implementation, Watershed Stewardship grants management and federal reporting programs, and staff development.

The Division of Watershed Stewardship's director manages a diverse group of programs that deal with conservation practices, drainage, shoreline and waterway management and protection, surface water quality, shellfish harvesting, fish contamination, dam safety and wetland assessments. These programs are overseen by an extremely qualified staff of 108 full-time positions with an annual operating budget of more than \$36.4 million.

In addition to the Division of Watershed Stewardship, Williams has held positions in the Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances and Division of Water during his long tenure with DNREC. He has also been engaged over the years with the Center for the Inland Bays, Delaware Board of Professional Geologists, University of Delaware Water Resources Center Advisory Panel and many more, including a long stint as an adjunct science professor at Wesley College. Most recently, he has served as an alternate commissioner on the Delaware River Basin Commission. In his free time, Williams is an avid angler and outdoors enthusiast, also giving back to his community through his lifelong service to the Boy Scouts of America.

More information about the DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship can be found at de.gov/watershed.

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**Steve Saari, Deputy Director
Natural Resources Administration**



Steve Saari is the Deputy Director of the Natural Resources Administration with the District of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE). Steve manages a talented, motivated team of over 150 professionals who work hard to protect and restore the health of the District's waterways and the District's fish and wildlife.

Steve has an M.S. in ecology and has been in the watershed restoration field for twenty years. Steve's projects have won or been a runner's up in the prestigious "Best Urban BMP in the Bay Awards" or BUBBA's three times. Steve is also a recipient of the of the Chesapeake Stormwater Network's "Stoneroller" Award and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay 2022 Watershed Champion.

**Anna Killius, Executive Director
Chesapeake Bay Commission**



Anna Killius joined the Commission in 2023 as Executive Director. She previously served as Director of Advocacy for the James River Association and legislative counsel for Congressman John Sarbanes of Maryland, where she advanced his leadership as co-chair of the Congressional Chesapeake Bay Watershed Task Force.

Anna has held appointments to the Chesapeake Bay Citizens Advisory Committee and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. She is a 2021 graduate of the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute. She received a juris doctor degree from William and Mary Law School, where she was a member of the first class of the Virginia Coastal Policy Center, and a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Dallas with a concentration in Applied Mathematics.

The daughter of a naval officer and an elementary mathematics coach, Anna has enjoyed living and learning in communities throughout the Bay watershed and is proud to always call the Chesapeake home.



EPA Mid-Atlantic Region Regional Administrator Adam Ortiz

Adam Ortiz has served as EPA's Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator since November 2021. In his role, he oversees federal environmental and public health protections in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, the District of Columbia, and seven federally recognized tribes. Working with state partners and local stakeholders, Adam is focused on infrastructure, enforcement, climate resiliency, environmental justice, and restoring the Chesapeake Bay.



With a focus at the EPA on accelerating progress to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay and upstream conservation efforts, Adam stepped up grantmaking and enforcement while also forging new or stronger alliances with the Bay states, the private sector, agriculture community, Amish community, and state and local governments. With a commitment to environmental justice, Adam directed the launch of the Engagement Communities Initiative that continues to focus on delivering resources to 37 of the most overburdened communities in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Adam's focus on revitalization and economic development led to the restoration of countless brownfield and superfund cleanup and revitalization projects. He is a strong proponent of being "in the field" and has logged over 13,000 miles participating in over 450 meetings with stakeholders and partners in every corner of the Mid-Atlantic Region. His leadership principle to "engage, align, and deliver" has guided the Mid-Atlantic Region staff in its mission to protect human health and the environment.

Prior to joining the senior leadership team at EPA, Adam was the Director of the Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Environmental Protection where he launched programs boosting recycling, curbside compost collection, building energy efficiency standards and watershed restoration projects with a focus on equity. Previously, he served as the Director of the Department of Environment for Prince George's County, Maryland where he led the county to the highest recycling rate in the state and oversaw the construction and operation of the region's largest organics composting facility. Adam also served as a three-term mayor of Edmonston, Maryland where he spearheaded the East Coast's first "Complete Green Street" that successfully captured and filtered stormwater runoff.

In his spare time, Adam enjoys getting outside to paddle and hike throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region. He grew up in New York's Hudson Valley and graduated from Goucher College in Maryland.

Daniel Chao, Chair
Local Government Advisory Committee



The Honorable Daniel Chao - Chair, Local Government Advisory Committee to the Chesapeake Executive Council

Daniel Chao was elected by DC residents in November 2014 to serve the Capitol Hill area as Neighborhood Commissioner in District 6B07 until 2017. In August of this year, he once again was sworn to serve as Commissioner, this time representing the neighborhood of Georgetown, DC.

As a Capitol Hill Commissioner Daniel worked to bridge the gap between his neighbors, half of whom were public housing residents and many others who had recently moved into luxury condos and million-dollar row houses.

Currently in Georgetown, he is working on a full range of local government policies from traffic and parking, historic preservation, public safety, sanitation and the promotion of local businesses.

Daniel is a veteran congressional staff of 25 years. He served as chief of staff to Representative Grace F. Napolitano of California for 16 years and in May of 2021 became the first US House of Representatives' Director of Congressional Leadership (he is casually referred as a "Coach" in the House). In this capacity he helped launch a first of its kind, bipartisan office to train all staff and even Members of Congress on how to run their operations and serve constituents to their best ability.

Born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, Daniel immigrated to Houston, Texas at the age of 8. He grew up in Houston and Austin and received his degree from the University of Texas at Austin. He and his husband Jeff enjoy walking their dog Lucy around their neighborhood to help burn off calories consumed from the countless bakeries located a block or two from their house.

Chuck Herrick, Chair, Stakeholders' Advisory Committee



Retired in December 2016, Chuck has consulted extensively with a wide range of U.S. government agencies and water utility organizations, providing analytical input and strategic direction on issues including climate change adaptation, natural resource damage assessment, sustainable fisheries management, valuation of ecosystem services, and control of invasive species. A leading expert in program evaluation, he designed program theories of change, logic models, and real-time evaluation frameworks to elucidate and characterize a wide variety of program delivery mechanisms, process outputs, outcomes, and impacts for major foundations and government agencies.

Dr. Herrick is a seasoned executive with oversight experience across all corporate functions, including accounting and finance, human resources and benefits management, legal affairs, facilities management, business development, IT, administration and professional support services, contracts management, corporate communications, mergers and acquisitions, and risk management and audits.

Throughout his career, Dr. Herrick has maintained an active association with academia, teaching regularly and publishing frequently in the peer reviewed literature. In 2023 he edited a major collection research articles entitled “Sustainability and Climate Services: Critique, Integration, and Reimagination” which was published in book form by MDPI Press. Each Fall semester he teaches a class at New York University called “History of American Environmental Policy.”

**Larry Sanford, Chair
Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee**



Larry Sanford serves as Vice President for Education at UMCES and is also a Professor at UMCES Horn Point Laboratory. He maintains a research program in fine sediment transport processes, coastal and estuarine physical oceanography, waves, and turbulence, with a special interest in interactions between fluid flow and estuarine ecology. Larry has served on the Chesapeake Bay Program Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee, the Bay Program Modeling Subcommittee and Sediment Workgroup, and various other Chesapeake Bay advisory committees.

Larry joined UMCES Horn Point Laboratory in 1984 and rose through the faculty ranks to Professor in 2001. He has authored or co-authored 65 peer-reviewed publications, served as major advisor for 13 graduate students, served on 77 other graduate committees, advised 12 undergraduate research interns, and taught 13 graduate courses. At UMCES, he has served on the Faculty Senate, chaired the Environmental Sustainability Council, and chaired a number of UMCES review committees. He has received the UMCES President's Award for Excellence in Application of Science, the Kirby Laing Fellowship of the School of Ocean Sciences, University of Wales, Bangor, and the USM MEES Program Teaching Award.

**Martha Shimkin, Director
Chesapeake Bay Program Office**



Martha Shimkin is the Director of the Chesapeake Bay Program Office (CBPO). She brings a diverse and varied background to the CBPO through various roles internationally and at EPA, in the Office of Water, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention, the Office of Children's Health Protection, the Office of International and Tribal Affairs, and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. Martha holds an M.A. in Economics from The George Washington University, a B.A. in Business Administration and foreign languages, and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Costa Rica.