



# Maryland Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Field Reference Guide

NOAA Marine Debris Program  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Purpose

This *Field Reference Guide* condenses information contained in the *Maryland Marine Debris Emergency Response Guide: Comprehensive Guidance Document (Guide)* to facilitate use during emergency response operations. While the *Comprehensive Guidance Document* serves as a complete reference for incident waterway debris response in Maryland, the *Field Reference Guide* includes the most pertinent information for quick reference in the field and during times of crisis. Both documents and subsequent versions will be posted on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Marine Debris Program website at <https://marinedebris.noaa.gov/>.

The purpose of this document is to improve preparedness for response and recovery operations following an acute waterway debris incident in coastal Maryland. The term acute waterway debris incident is used to describe an incident – either natural or anthropogenic – that results in the release of large amounts of waterway debris. The *Comprehensive Guidance Document* and complementary *Field Reference Guide* outline existing response structures at the local, state, and federal levels to facilitate a coordinated, well-managed, and immediate response to waterway debris incidents impacting the state of Maryland. Individual organization roles and responsibilities are presented in a consolidated one-page flowchart, which functions as a decision tree for waterway debris response. Additionally, permitting and compliance requirements for waterway debris removal have been synthesized in a one-page reference handout.

### 1.2 Scope of *Guide*

The *Comprehensive Guidance Document* and *Field Reference Guide* address potential acute waterway debris incidents affecting Maryland’s coastal counties. For purposes of these documents, the term waterway debris (or incident waterway debris) is used in lieu of the term marine debris. In 33 U.S.C. § 1956(3), marine debris is defined as any persistent solid material that is manufactured or processed and directly or indirectly, intentionally or unintentionally, disposed of or abandoned into the marine environment or the Great Lakes. Although vegetative debris is not included in the legal

definition for marine debris, stakeholders have identified it as a common debris stream of concern following natural disasters. To account for both marine debris and vegetative debris in this document, the term waterway debris is used and includes any solid material, including but not limited to vegetative debris and debris exposed to or that has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants, that enters a waterway following an acute incident and poses a threat to the natural or man-made environment. This may include shoreline and wetland debris and debris in some inland, non-tidal waterways.

## **2. Maryland Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart**

The *Maryland Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart* included in this section provides a visual one-page representation of organization roles and responsibilities. The flowchart functions as a decision tree for waterway debris response with color-coded endpoints. Yellow endpoints represent response to waterway debris that is exposed to or has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Blue endpoints represent response to waterway debris that is not exposed to and does not have the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Endpoints within the green shaded area indicate that response may occur under Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) authorities and/or funding.

# Maryland Incident Waterway Debris Response Flowchart

**Waterway Debris/Incident Waterway Debris**  
Any solid material, including but not limited to vegetative debris and debris exposed to or that has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants, that enters a waterway following an acute incident and poses a threat to the natural or man-made environment. This may include shoreline and wetland debris and debris in some inland, non-tidal waterways.

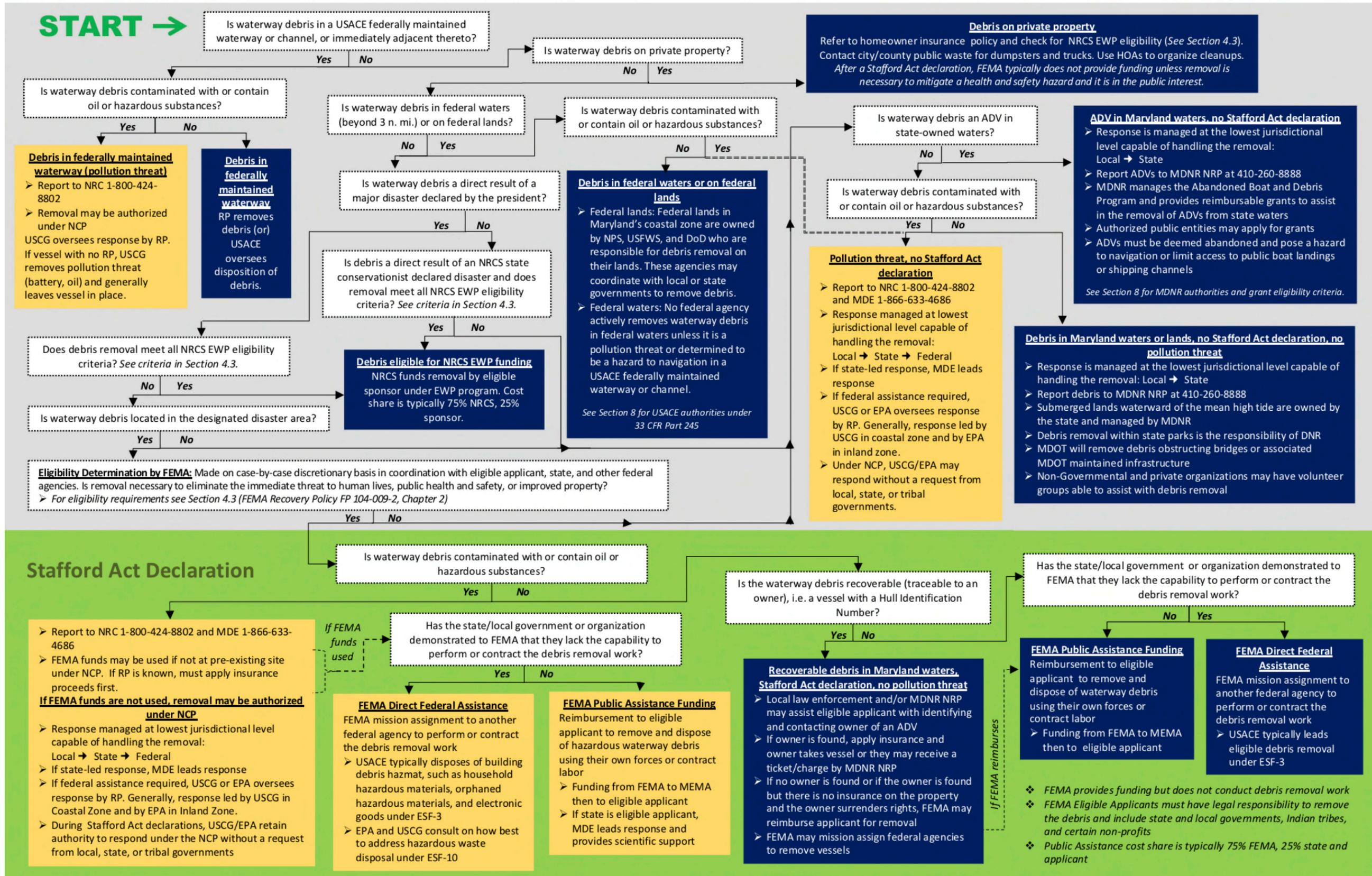
## Acronyms

ADV – Abandoned and Derelict Vessel  
DoD – U.S. Department of Defense  
EPA – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
ESF – Emergency Support Function  
EWP – Emergency Watershed Protection  
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency  
HOA – Home Owner’s Association

MDE – Maryland Department of the Environment  
MDNR – MD Department of Natural Resources  
MDOT – Maryland Department of Transportation  
MEMA – Maryland Emergency Management Agency  
NCP – National Oil & Hazardous Substance Contingency Plan  
NPS – National Park Service

NRC – National Response Center  
NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service  
NRP – Maryland Natural Resources Police  
RP – Responsible Party (Owner, Operator, Lessee)  
USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
USCG – U.S. Coast Guard  
USFWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

<b>Flowchart Key</b>	Response to waterway debris that is exposed to or has the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants
	Response to waterway debris that is not exposed to and does not have the potential to release oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants
	Response occurring under Stafford Act authorities and/or funds



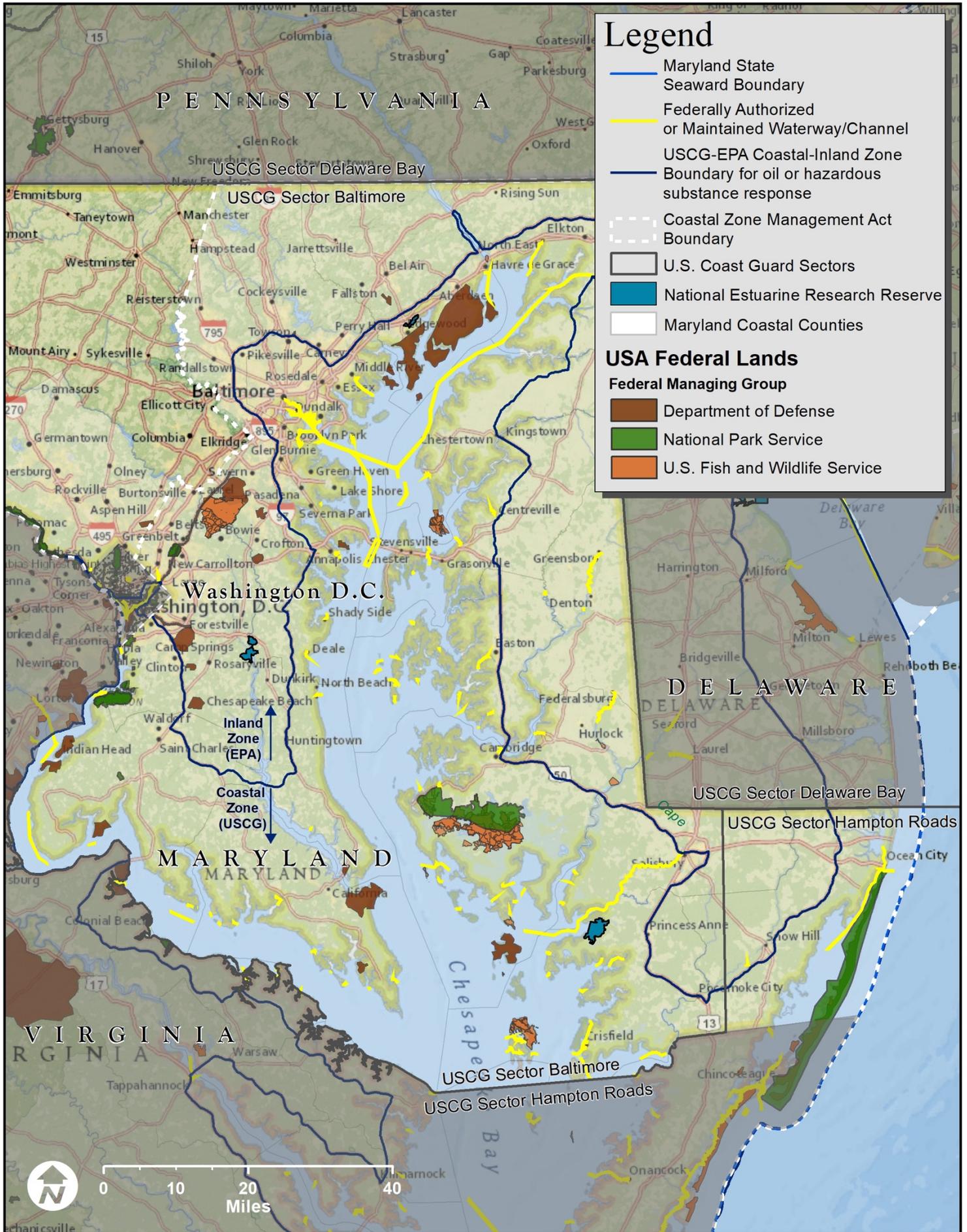
## **3. Agency Jurisdictions and Capabilities**

### **3.1 Agency Jurisdiction Map**

The *Maryland Incident Waterway Debris Response Map* on the following page displays relevant agency jurisdiction boundaries in Maryland's 16 coastal counties. After an acute waterway debris incident, the agency (or agencies) responsible for removing debris will vary depending on where the debris is located. This map includes information that stakeholders identified as important in determining jurisdiction within the state.

### **3.2 Organization Response Capabilities**

# Maryland Incident Waterway Debris Response Map



## Legend

- Maryland State Seaward Boundary
  - Federally Authorized or Maintained Waterway/Channel
  - USCG-EPA Coastal-Inland Zone
  - Boundary for oil or hazardous substance response
  - Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary
  - U.S. Coast Guard Sectors
  - National Estuarine Research Reserve
  - Maryland Coastal Counties
- ### USA Federal Lands
- Federal Managing Group**
- Department of Defense
  - National Park Service
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### 3.2 Organization Response Capabilities

		Yes - In-house Capability		FEMA Region III <sup>1</sup>	NOAA <sup>2</sup>	USFWS ESFO	MEMA	MDNR	MHT	Annapolis Emergency Management	Annapolis Harbormaster	Baltimore County Solid Waste
		Contract - Contracted capability										
Technology	Aerial photography and video	Yes	Cont.	Yes				Yes				
	Automatic ID system for vessels											
	Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Multi-beam sonar	Contract		Yes								
	Remote sensing	Contract		Yes					Yes			
	Side-scan sonar	Contract		Yes				Yes	Yes			
	Single-beam sonar	Contract		Yes				Yes				
Manpower	Compliance and permitting expertise	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes
	Dive support	Contract		Yes <sup>3</sup>				Yes	Yes <sup>5</sup>			
	Environmental expertise (location of sensitive areas and endangered species present, etc.)	Yes	Cont.	Yes	Yes			Yes				
	GIS staff/technician	Yes	Cont.	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Historical/cultural expertise	Yes	Cont.						Yes	Yes	Yes	
	Local Captains/navigation expertise to support operations	Contract						Yes				
	Private boat owners/operators (vessels of opportunity)											
	Public Affairs trained staff	Yes	Cont.	Yes			Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Technical expertise for removal operations (techniques, best management practices, etc.)	Yes	Cont.	Yes				Yes			Yes	
	Volunteer manpower (vetted for technical skills)	Yes	Cont.									
Volunteer coordination	Yes								Yes			
Equipment	Aircraft- civil air patrol	Yes	Cont.	Yes								
	Airlift capabilities	Yes	Cont.									
	All-terrain vehicles or other vehicles for difficult terrain	Contract						Yes				
	Barge/Self-loading barge	Contract						Yes				
	Boom	Contract								Yes	Yes	
	Communications equipment (two-way radios etc.)	Contract		Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

		Yes - In-house Capability	FEMA Region III <sup>1</sup>	NOAA <sup>2</sup>	USFWS ESFO	MEMA	MDNR	MHT	Annapolis Emergency Management	Annapolis Harbormaster	Baltimore County Solid Waste
		Contract - Contracted capability									
Equipment (Cont.)	Crane/knuckleboom crane	Contract					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Debris handling equipment (burners, grinders, etc.)	Yes Cont.									Yes
	Excavator	Contract					Yes				Yes
	Remotely Operated Vehicle	Contract	Yes								
	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle	Contract	Yes						Yes		
	Vessels-shallow draft	Yes Cont.	Yes				Yes	Yes <sup>6</sup>	Yes	Yes	
	Vessels-deep draft	Yes Cont.	Yes				Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Other specialized equipment that cannot be readily procured immediately following a debris incident	Contract									
Logistics	Contract authority and oversight capabilities	Yes Cont.	Yes				Yes		Yes		
	Docks for wet storage of vessels	Contract					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Facility suitable for establishing an Emergency Operations Center	Yes Cont.				Yes	Yes		Yes		
	Funding for waterway debris removal	Yes	Yes <sup>4</sup>			Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Legal representation/expertise	Yes	Yes				Yes		Yes		
	List of available locations for staging/off-loading areas						Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Pre-approved waterway debris removal contractors	Contract					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Pre-designated landfill/disposal sites (to include vegetative and animal carcasses)	Contract					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Pre-event contracts and staged agreements in place	Contract									
	Staging/Off-Loading: Land with water access to stage, offload debris (has not been evaluated for suitability or officially pre-designated)	Contract					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Staging/Off-Loading: Pre-designated staging, off-loading and special handling areas (already evaluated for suitability)	Contract					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Staging area for dry storage of vessels	Yes Cont.					Yes		Yes	Yes	
	Other logistical support including fuel, housing, food, etc.	Yes Cont.							Yes	Yes	

Note: Capabilities which could be used during waterway debris response in Maryland were either identified through research or were self-reported by an organization. Organizations were asked to indicate whether capabilities were in-house or were contracted through a third party. Footnotes refer to additional information provided for a particular capability.

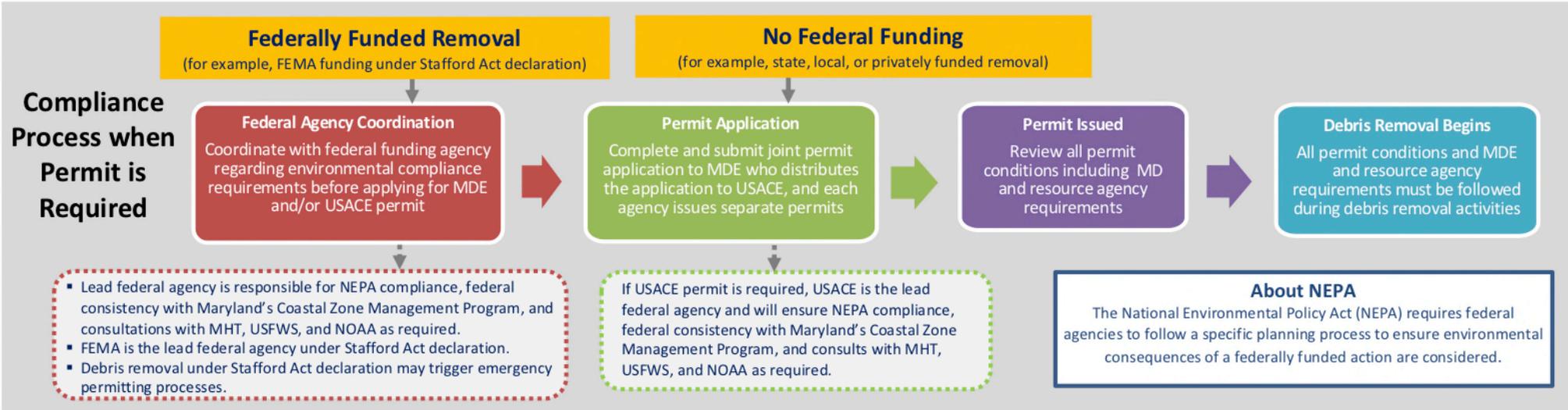
- <sup>1</sup>FEMA Capabilities reported 'Contract' may be contracted out or mission assigned to another federal agency. For example, USACE may be mission assigned to coordinate and/or identify local areas to use for operations.
- <sup>2</sup>NOAA Some capabilities require contract support for staffing.
- <sup>3</sup>NOAA Dive capabilities do not include sites with oil or hazardous pollutants.
- <sup>4</sup>NOAA Funding through grant program and possible Congressional supplemental funding
- <sup>5</sup>MHT Dive capabilities do not include sites with oil or hazardous pollutants, are limited to inspection of potential historic properties, and may require contract support
- <sup>6</sup>MHT Limited to one 30-foot Maycraft survey boat and one 17-foot Carolina Skiff

## 4. Permitting and Compliance Requirements in Maryland

The *Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in Maryland* one-pager on the following page synthesizes permitting and compliance requirements that must be met before waterway debris removal operations begin. The top portion of the one-pager outlines the process to follow to stay in compliance, while the bottom portion highlights specific state and federal agency requirements with general contact information.

# Permitting and Compliance for Waterway Debris Removal in Maryland

- In Maryland's coastal zone, a Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) tidal wetlands permit and/or a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit may be required if debris removal involves excavating, dredging, the discharge of fill or dredge material, or involves structures or work impacting navigable waterways or wetlands.
- MDE and USACE have a joint permit application process. Applications are submitted to MDE and federal and state review occur concurrently.
- The **lead federal agency** is responsible for compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal coastal consistency, and consulting with tribal and resource agencies including Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries as required.



## Agency Requirements and Legislation Details

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)**  
Baltimore District Regulatory Program  
410-962-3670

- Permit(s) that may be required for debris removal work within waterways and wetlands:
  - **NWP-3 Maintenance** for removal/maintenance of culverts, sediments or debris accumulated around outfalls, bridges, etc. in wetland areas
  - **NWP-22 Removal of Vessels** for removal of wrecked, abandoned, or disabled vessels or other man-made obstructions to navigation
  - **NWP-33 Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering** for temporary structures, work, and discharges necessary for construction activities or access fills
  - **NWP-37 Emergency Watershed Protection & Rehabilitation** for work done under NRCS's Emergency Watershed Protection program
  - **NWP-38 Cleanup Hazardous/Toxic Waste** for containment, stabilization, or removal of hazardous or toxic waste not under CERCLA/NCP
  - **NWP-45 Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events** for activities associated with the restoration of upland areas damaged by storms, floods, or other discrete events.

**MD Department of the Environment (MDE)**  
Wetlands and Waterways Program  
410 537-3837

- Issues tidal wetlands permits for projects that may negatively impact any of these resources
- A tidal wetland permit may be required for debris removal projects that involve excavating, dredging, the discharge of fill or dredge material, or involves structures or work impacting wetlands.
- MDE and USACE have a joint permit application process. Permit applications are submitted through MDE and federal and state review occur concurrently.

**MD Historical Trust (MHT)**  
Office of Preservation Services  
410-697-9545

- Serves as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and assists state and federal agencies in compliance with the Maryland Historical Trust Act and the National Historic Preservation Act
- Consultation with MHT is required if waterway debris response involves a state or federal agency directly or through funding and/or issuance of permits or licenses (MDE or USACE permits, MEMA or FEMA funding, etc.) and has potential to affect historic properties

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**  
NOAA Fisheries  
ESA: 978-281-9328  
EFH: 410-573-4559

- Consultation required if waterway debris response involves federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with:
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA) to ensure actions do not adversely affect listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat for marine species
  - Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act to ensure actions do not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**  
Chesapeake Bay Field Office  
410-573-4599

- Consultation with Ecological Services Field Office required if waterway debris response involves federal permits and/or funding (USACE permit, FEMA funding, etc.) to comply with:
  - Endangered Species Act (ESA) to ensure actions do not adversely affect listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat for land and freshwater species and certain marine species such as manatee
  - Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) to ensure actions do not encourage development on coastal barriers along the Atlantic coast

## 5. Organization Contact Information

### Local Agencies/Organizations

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
City of Annapolis	Harbormasters Office	Vessel Capabilities	Tyler Northfield	410-263-7973	-
	Historic Preservation Commission	Historic/Cultural Expertise	Sherri Phippen	410-260-2200	-
	Information Technology	Geographic Information Systems	Shawn Wampler	410-263-7945	-
	Public Information Office	Public Affairs	Susan O'Brien	410-263-1183	-
	Public Works	-	Marcia Patrick	410-263-949	-
Baltimore County	Division of Public Works	Public Works Capabilities	Michael Beichler	410-887-2794	mbeichler@baltimorecountymd.gov
Baltimore Metropolitan Council	-	Baltimore Regional Disaster Debris Planning Task Force	Eileen Singleton, Principal Transportation Engineer	410-732-0500x1033	esingleton@baltometro.org

### State Agencies

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)	Land and Materials	Oil Control Program	24hr Oil Spill Reporting Line	1-866-633-4686	-
	Office of Emergency Preparedness	Emergency Management	Geoffrey Donahue, Director	410-365-8809	geoffrey.donahue@maryland.gov
	Solid Waste Operations	Solid Waste Program	Edward M. Dexter, P.G., Administrator	410-537-3315	ed.dexter@maryland.gov
		Solid Waste Operations	Andrew Grenzer Chief, Solid Waste Operations	-	andrew.grenzer@maryland.gov
		Compliance	Brian Coblentz, Chief, Compliance Division	-	brian.coblentz@maryland.gov
	Water and Science	Tidal Wetland Permitting	Main Line	410-537-3837	-

**State Agencies Continued**

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)	Fisheries and Boating Service	Abandoned Boat and Debris Program	John Gallagher	410-463-6522	john.gallagher1@maryland.gov
			Matt Negley	410-463-6521	matt.negley@maryland.gov
	Parks Service	State Parks	Nita Settina, Superintendent	-	nita.settina@maryland.gov
	Chesapeake and Coastal Service	Coastal zone management coastal policies and federal consistency, marine debris technical expertise, GIS capabilities, aerial photography and video capabilities	Matt Fleming, Director	410-260-8719	matthew.fleming@maryland.gov
	Environmental Review	Policy and permitting guidance	Tony Redman	410-260-8336	tony.redman@maryland.gov
	Natural Resource Police	Reporting of debris	Natural Resources Emergency Line	800-628-9944 or 410-260-8888	-
Maryland Department of Planning (MDP)	Maryland Historical Trust (MHT)/SHPO	State Underwater Archeologist	Susan Langley	410-353-8777(c) 410-697-9564(o)	susan.langley@maryland.gov
		Administrator, Review and Compliance	Beth Cole	410-697-9541	beth.cole@maryland.gov
		Preservation Services	Main Line	410-697-9545	-
Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)	Office of Homeland Security, Emergency Management, and Rail Safety	Emergency Management	Mark Harris	410-865-1128	mharris@mdot.state.md.us
	Maryland Port Administration	Safety, Environment, and Risk Management	Bill Richardson, General Manager	410-633-1145	wrichardson@marylandports.com
Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)	Consequence Management	Maryland Joint Operation Center	24hr Watch Center	410-517-3600	mjoc.mema@maryland.gov
		Emergency Operations	Marcia Deppen	410-517-3638	marica.deppen@maryland.gov
	Mission Support	Communications Equipment Capabilities	Brian Wood	410-517-3648	brian.wood@maryland.gov
		State Emergency Operations Center Manager	Jeremy Scheinker	410-517-3641	jeremy.scheinker@maryland.gov
	Disaster Risk Reduction	Public Assistance Officer	Sara Bender	410-517-3620	sara.bender1@maryland.gov
		State Disaster Recovery Coordinator	Dave Robbins	410-517-3650	dave.robbins@maryland.gov

## Federal Agencies

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	Marine Trash and Debris Program	Planning and coordination	James Sinclair, Marine Ecologist	504-736-2789	james.sinclair@bsee.gov
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	Region III	Recovery Division	Edward Budnick, Debris SME	267-319-6334	edward.budnick@fema.dhs.gov
			Matthew Werner, Senior Emergency Management Specialist	202-600-1768	matthew.werner@fema.dhs.gov
		Requests for assistance for capabilities	Region III Watch Center	215-931-5757	FEMA-R03-RRCC-WATCH@fema.dhs.gov
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	National Marine Fisheries Service or NOAA Fisheries	EFH consultation	General Contact	410-573-4559	-
			Keith Hanson, Marine Habitat Resource Specialist	410-573-4559	keith.hanson@noaa.gov
		ESA consultation	General Contact	978-281-9328	nmfs.gar.esa.section7@noaa.gov
			William Barnhill, Fishery Biologist	978-282-8460	william.barnhill@noaa.gov
	National Ocean Service (NOS) Office of Response and Restoration (ORR) Emergency Response Division	Emergency Response	Frank Csulak, Scientific Support Coordinator	732-371-1005	frank.csulak@noaa.gov
			John Tarpley, Regional Operations Branch Chief	206-526-6338 (o) 206-459-8638 (c)	john.tarpley@noaa.gov
	NOS, ORR, Marine Debris Program	Response capabilities and coordination	Jason Rolfe, Response Coordinator	240-533-0442 (o) 301-461-3236 (c)	jason.rolfe@noaa.gov
			Christy Kehoe, Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator	240-533-0393	christy.kehoe@noaa.gov
NOS, Office of Coast Survey	Navigation and preparation response	Vacant, Regional Navigation Manager	571-305-0995	midatlantic.navmanager@noaa.gov	
National Park Service	Assateague Island National Seashore	-	Hugh Hawthorne, Superintendent	410-629-6090	hugh_hawthorne@nps.gov
		Park Rangers	Walt West, Chief Ranger	410-641-1443	-
		Resource Management	Bill Huslander, Chief	410-629-6061	bill_huslander@nps.gov
	Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine	-	Tina Cappetta, Superintendent	410-962-4290x101	tina_cappetta@nps.gov
	Northeast Region	Natural Resources	Carmen Chapin, Chief	215-597-7700	carmen_chapin@nps.gov

**Federal Agencies Continued**

Agency	Division	Topic	Point of Contact	Phone	Email
Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	-	Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program information	Allan Stahl, State Conservationist	443-482-2912	allan.stahl@md.usda.gov
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Baltimore District	-	Debris Removal	Jeff Peacock, Chief, Debris Unit	443-844-9290	jeffrey.d.peacock@usace.army.mil
		Emergency Management Response capabilities	24hr Emergency Operations Center	410-962-2013	cenab-eoc@usace.army.mil
			Dorie Murphy, Chief, Emergency Management	410-962-4224	dorie.murphy@usace.army.mil
		Navigation	Kevin Brennan, Chief, Navigation	410-9626113	kevin.m.brennan@usace.army.mil
		Regulatory Program	Main Line	410-962-3670	-
U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) District 5	Sector Maryland-National Capital Region	Maryland Command Center	Main Line	410-576-2525	-
		Potential to release oil or hazardous material	National Response Center (NRC)	1-800-424-8802	-
		Port Recovery/Security	Fred Dolbow, Port Recovery/Security Specialist	410-487-5616	frederick.h.dolbow@uscg.mil
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Region III	Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act	Stephanie Kubico	215-814-2762	kubico.stephanie@epa.gov
		Environmental Protection	Bill Steuteville	215-814-3264	steuteville.william@epa.gov
			David Iacono, P.E.	215-814-3231	iacono.david@epa.gov
		NEPA	Barb Rudnick	215-814-3322	rudnick.barbara@epa.gov
		Potential to release oil or hazardous substance	National Response Center (NRC)	800-424-8802	-
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Ecological Services	Chesapeake Bay Field Office	Trevor Clark	410-573-4527	trevor_clark@fws.gov



Wilbur L. Ross, Jr.  
United States Secretary of Commerce

Dr. Neil Jacobs  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Environmental Observation and Prediction,  
performing the duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere

Nicole R. LeBoeuf  
Acting Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services  
and Coastal Zone Management