

AGENCY SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (DoE)

Budget & Policy Analyst: Alex Hirtle

- DoE [website](#)
- DoE [FY 2024 Approved Budget](#)
- DoE [FY 2024 Budget Review Report](#)
- DoE [FY 2025 Budget Review Report](#)

Leadership

- Adriana Caldarelli, Acting Director
- Michelle Russell, Deputy Director

Core Services

- Implement projects that improve water quality to comply with the County's federal and State National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit Program (MS4) to support flood control
- Collect, process and divert waste from the County operated landfill, commercial facilities and households to comply with the County's State-required ten year solid waste plan.
- Develop and implement programs to reduce County greenhouse gas emissions and improve conservation of environmental resources.
- Develop and implement programs that improve the County's resilience to climate change including tree planting and land use practices and residential resilience to flooding.
- Engage and educate the community on litter reduction, pollution prevention, beautification, waste diversion, climate resilience and environmental best practices.
- Facilitate pet adoptions, manage an animal service facility, issue licenses, investigate cruelty complaints and conduct humane outreach and education events.

Organizational Structure

- The Department of Environment is led by one director and one deputy director who oversees five (5) main divisions (Strategic Services, Animal Services, Resource Recovery, Stormwater Management, and Sustainability).

FY 2024 Top Priorities

- Investigate constituent service requests for flooding on private properties identifying problem sources and corrective measures.
- Increase the total number of impervious acres retrofitted with stormwater management controls that filter pollutants through the work of local, County-based businesses prioritizing projects that support regulatory requirements and flood alleviation co-benefits.
- Design the construction of Area C at the Brown Station Road Landfill to extend its useful life and expand the residential food scrap composting program.
- Expand the number of litter receptacles, provide alternatives to illegal dumping, enhance waste services and develop holistic educational and engagement tools around litter and illegal dumping.
- Support and expand stakeholder involvement in the Climate Implementation Task Force.
- Increase the placement of animals in forever homes through community outreach and integrate animal control into County emergency services to best serve residents and their animal companions.

BACKGROUND

The Department of the Environment was established by [Section 11](#) of the County Code and was renamed in 2016 from the Department of Environmental Resources (DER), after a new agency called the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement (DPIE) was split off. DOE is responsible for the overall administration and coordination of the County's environmental policies and programs including, but not limited to, solid waste and recycling management, water and sewer planning, sustainability, and water quality and flood management planning. DOE is also responsible for the study and reporting on master plans, capital improvement programs, and any planning and zoning matters related to the County's environmental policies and programs, which may be referred to the Executive Branch. DOE is also responsible for the administration of County laws relating to Animal control.

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Operating and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budgetary Resources

Below is the 5-year overview of resources allocated to DoE from FY 2020-24

