

# THE CHESAPEAKE ENGINEER

SUMMER 2020

**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**<sup>®</sup>  
Baltimore District

ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR OUR  
NATION'S TOUGHEST CHALLENGES



# THE CHESAPEAKE ENGINEER

MAGAZINE

COVID-19 CHANGES EVERYTHING

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COVID-19 RESPONSE BY THE NUMBERS

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MARYLAND SILVER JACKETS

## ON THE COVER:

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Emergency Operations Vehicle (ECCV-7) is parked outside the Army Corps Baltimore District Headquarters in support of COVID-19 emergency operations, Baltimore, March 30, 2020. Baltimore District's Emergency Operations Center was activated full time to assist with the Alternate Care Facility mission assignment to convert large spaces to care sites to augment the medical response to COVID-19. (U.S. Army photo by John Sokolowski)



The mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, is to deliver vital engineering solutions in collaboration with our partners to serve and strengthen the Nation, energize the economy and reduce disaster risks.

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Col. John Litz, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, highlights aspects of construction of the alternate care facility in the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., to Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commanding general, April 30, 2020. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, using funds through FEMA, awarded a contract on April 16, 2020, to Hensel Phelps Construction Co. out of Tyson, Virginia, and both the design and construction of the facility were completed in just 22 days. The alternate care facility was requested by D.C.'s Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency through FEMA to address potential shortages in hospital beds in the event of a surge of patients needing care in the District of Columbia. (U.S. Army photo by Carlos J. Lazo)

This past year has certainly been challenging, but this summer edition of our magazine highlights how the Corps continues to respond to our nation's toughest challenges - no matter how unique and daunting they may be.

Within the following pages, you'll see how we served our region through the alternate care facility mission as FEMA's emergency public works and engineering experts in the face of the pandemic. As a result of our mission, my incredible diverse and talented volunteer team, alongside partner agencies, was able to provide facilities that support more than 440 beds to augment hospitals in the Washington, D.C. area.

I am proud of our resilient Baltimore team, which has adapted to new and safe ways of operating to successfully execute our programs and projects - like keeping

navigation channels open at the Port of Baltimore, constructing a new access control point on Fort Meade and starting construction of the nearly \$90 million Army War College project on Carlisle Barracks.

This edition also touches on two special Army Corps teams - one focusing on international engineering challenges, and one tackling flood risk stateside.

I hope you and your families are staying safe and healthy.

BUILDING STRONG!

COL John Litz  
Commander and District Engineer  
Baltimore District



# COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

BY CAPT. MATTHEW GOLDEN

*In the early months of 2020, the world as we knew it came to a screeching halt. An unparalleled problem had presented itself, and the nation needed an immediate solution — in stepped the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*



The Army Corps prides itself on its ability to provide “engineering solutions for our nation’s toughest challenges,” as Lt. Gen. Todd T. Semonite, the face of the Army Corps COVID-19 response and the 54th commanding general, often explains.

And, just like that, Army civilians, Soldiers and officers were called to action from across the nation to augment the emergency response — myself included.

After completing the Engineer Captains Career Course and subsequently the Professional Development Program at the University of Missouri Science & Technology, I found myself in the middle of an international permanent change of station (PCS) move when the DOD implemented its first stop movement. I was on PCS leave in New York, which had quickly become the nation’s epicenter for the COVID-19 outbreak. It was during this time that I received a call from the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, that I was going to join the Army Corps in the fight against the “invisible enemy” — a term that quickly became synonymous with COVID-19.

Within 48 hours, I arrived at the Army Corps Baltimore District to support their emergency management office.

#### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The job of the Baltimore District Emergency Management Office is to plan for and manage response and recovery efforts to natural and manmade disasters at the local and national level, in accordance with Public Law 84-99 Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies and Public Law 93-288 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Assistance Act.

The Corps supplements local and state efforts to save human lives and mitigate property damage.

Nothing about

disaster response is simple, but, in short, the Stafford Act enables FEMA to orchestrate a federal national disaster response. Through mission assignments and funding, FEMA leans on the Army Corps and a plethora of other agencies to execute various Emergency Support Functions (ESF) to synchronize the integration of federal, state, local, tribal partners, and others during a time of crisis.

USACE belongs to ESF #3, Public Works and Engineering. ESF #3 is charged with assisting FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security in the delivery of services to include public works engineering expertise, construction management, and other critical support to prepare for, prevent, respond to and recover from domestic incidents, like the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### THE FEDERAL FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

In the battle against COVID-19, Baltimore District was tasked by FEMA to help augment anticipated medical surge response needs in Maryland, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. This included the inspection of 49 facilities like hospitals, schools, correctional facilities, convention centers and hotels across the region to determine their viability to serve as alternate care sites, as well as the conversion of State-selected sites.

Baltimore District’s assessment teams determined facility viability based on a number of factors to include: structural soundness; potential bed capacity; potential isolation space; electrical and communication capabilities; adequate plumbing and HVAC systems; the feasibility of creating a negative-pressure environment to contain the introduction of new pathogens; safety codes; Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, and more. Baltimore District equipped its State partners with



inspection reports, so they could determine how to best proceed with each space (if at all) and its potential alternate care level and use.

These alternate care facilities were constructed at the request of State governments based on models that predicted when peak infection rates would most likely stress existing healthcare facilities beyond their capabilities.

Nationwide, the Army Corps leveraged expertise from local industry and the Army Corps Huntsville District's Medical Center of Expertise to provide life-saving and sustaining services through the design and construction of these alternate care facilities. The center of expertise developed standard work performance statements like the conversion of an arena to a healthcare facility, which could be easily modified to serve project-specific requirements across the nation.

On April 16, 2020, Baltimore District issued a contract to Hensel Phelps Construction Company of Tyson, Virginia, to convert a portion of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in the District of Columbia into an alternate care facility, at the request of DC government. The Convention Center boasted several advantages to act as a care facility to include its central location and a vast utility infrastructure. Baltimore District oversaw the contract that converted Hall A of the convention center into a 151,000-square-foot medical treatment facility with space for almost 450 beds with nearly half of them capable of supplying oxygen to patients. The project also included support facilities like patient registration, storage and staff areas, and pharmacy and lab rooms.

In a matter of weeks, the team delivered a world-class care facility. A typical contract of this complexity and magnitude



Baltimore District and contractor Patriot Spaces deliver Medical Containerized Solutions outside of United Medical Center in Washington, D.C. April 22, 2020. (Courtesy photo) Below: Capt. Matthew Golden discusses plans with a team member. (Courtesy photo)

may take years to deliver, but through a herculean team effort and standard design, the DC convention center conversion was completed May 8, 2020. It was then turned over to the DC government for operation.

### A COMPLETE VOLUNTEER FORCE: A FAMILY ENTERPRISE

What surprised me most upon my arrival in the Baltimore District's Emergency Operations Center was not the massive onslaught of emergency tasks and responsibilities that existed, but their team-like approach. The wow factor was not just the successful mission execution, but in how the mission was achieved — a group of mostly strangers coming together to tackle the COVID-19 response head on, united by their desire to help a nation in need.

Other than a small permanent emergency management staff at Baltimore District, in times of disaster, emergency operations are conducted almost entirely by a volunteer force of Army Corps civilians with a few military augmentees sprinkled into the mix. These volunteers leave their day-to-day jobs within the Corps and deploy for 30 days or more to fill various



emergency management rolls — mostly completely unrelated to their normal Corps duties. This includes professionals ranging from archeologists, logisticians, regulators, engineers, and human resource specialists. The District's Chief of Emergency Management, Dorie Murphy, was responsible for more than 100 emergency management volunteers/responders during the pandemic



Above: Patient rooms in the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C., April 28, 2020, after converting part of the convention center into an Alternate Care Facility (ACF) through a FEMA mission assignment to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to augment health care needs in the District of Columbia in response to COVID-19. (U.S. Army photo by Brittany Crissman) Left: The Baltimore District was responsible for more than 49 Alternate Care Facility assessments that culminated with the conversion of the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. (U.S. Army photo by David Gray)

much like an extended family. During a period of uncertainty and isolation, this was refreshing to experience.

response.

It was remarkable to see people excelling at their newly assigned positions, 100 percent committed to mission success, displaying a unified sense of purpose and working vigorous shifts, often exceeding 12 hours.

Camaraderie and caring were at the forefront of the emergency management team — breeding a culture of positivity and support,

Emergency staff members were always checking in on one another. Events like funny hat day, virtual team lunches, "Hero of the Day" recognition, and the celebration of holidays and birthdays introduced levity during tough moments.

To best protect the entire workforce, approximately 90 percent of District employees teleworked as they adhered

to newly implemented social distancing measures. Despite adding another level of complexity, the District was able to continue to deliver its other essential programs like flood risk management and providing drinking water to our Nation's Capital while mitigating the spread of COVID-19.

The Army Corps is an enterprise that displays its commitment to the organization's most valuable resource — its people. Organizations like the Army Corps epitomize what it means to be a team of teams. The COVID-19 response is just one example. ■



# REAL ESTATE SUPPORT

BY CHRIS GARDNER

**B**altimore District's Real Estate Division kicked into high gear to support the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Alternate Care Facility mission in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The District's real estate professionals ultimately coordinated the necessary real estate agreements for seven of the 38 facilities overall where the Army Corps initiated construction – nearly one out of every five of the nationwide mission.

This included coordination for three Alternate Care Facilities in Baltimore District's boundaries, in Maryland and Washington, D.C., as well as the necessary coordination for four facilities in hard-hit New Jersey through real estate services provided to Philadelphia District.

"Like other personnel throughout the District, our real estate professionals rose to the occasion to support the Alternate Care Facility mission assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," said Real Estate Division Chief Sue Lewis. "I'm extremely proud of how our team of realty specialists stepped up to ensure these facilities could be delivered in a seamless manner to help communities facing rising COVID-19 patient numbers."

Real estate played a critical role in the execution of ACF sites.

For privately-owned sites, the Corps needed permission from the owners to perform work. The designated States had to enter into an agreement, either through a license or a Right of Entry, with the property owners to grant the Corps access to the premises.

For cases in which the site was owned by the government, a Right of Entry for Construction was still necessary to allow access for design and construction of the ACF.

"It is crucial that Real Estate and Office of Counsel review these agreements prior to the States executing them with the property owners to ensure the proper language for access is included, in addition to ensuring that no additional language obligating USACE beyond the assigned tasks are included," said Realty Specialist Dell Jackson, Baltimore District's lead for real estate support to ACF projects in Maryland and Washington, D.C.

These real estate documents had to be fully executed by all parties before the Emergency Operations Center could proceed with award of the contracts allowing work to begin.

"All projects begin and end with the real estate, so although my role is small in the whole scheme of things, it is crucial in preventing problems later on," said Craig Homesley, Baltimore District's lead for real estate support to Philadelphia District. ■





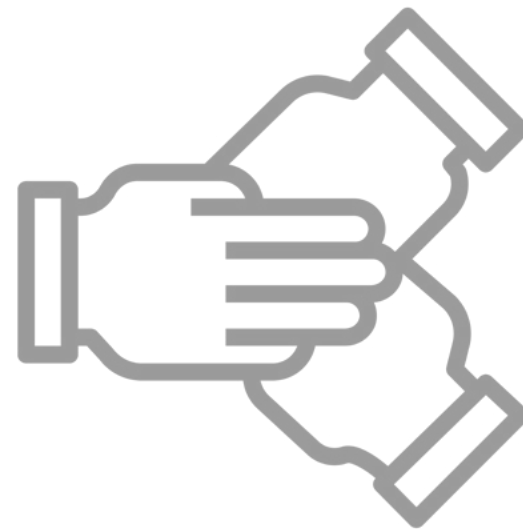
# COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, rapidly prepared to assist the Nation in a time of crisis. In support of FEMA - and in coordination with other federal, state, and local partners - we executed critical public facilities missions response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



SUPPORTING  
PENNSYLVANIA,  
MARYLAND &  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

**139**  
**PERSONNEL**



**49** **SITE**  
**ASSESSMENTS**



IN **14**  
**DAYS**

Through the FEMA mission assignment, the Army Corps served as FEMA's emergency public works and engineering experts.



## ALTERNATE CARE FACILITIES

ACF site assessments were conducted based on a list of potential, prioritized facilities provided to the Corps by our State partners. We determined the viability and capability of converting the spaces into Alternate Care Facilities.



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Baltimore District

CONVERTED THE D.C. CONVENTION CENTER

**443**



**BEDS**

IN **151,000** **SQUARE FEET OF  
MEDICAL SPACE**

**ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR OUR  
NATION'S TOUGHEST CHALLENGES**



# NAVIGATION MISSION

## Part of Baltimore's continued maritime heritage

BY NICOLE STRONG

*Baltimore is historically a port city with a rich maritime history, and the Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District's navigation mission plays a large part in that continued heritage.*

The District maintains more than 290 miles of federal navigable channels within the Susquehanna River watershed through its navigation mission, and support to the Port of Baltimore is a key aspect of that mission. In partnership with the Maryland Port Administration, Baltimore District maintains a network of dozens of miles of deep-draft channels leading to and from terminals associated with the Port of Baltimore to ensure safe passage for shipping vessels.

The three key aspects of maintaining safe passage on these channels is dredging, surveying the federal channels and removing debris.

The Port of Baltimore connects the United States to ports all around the world, and the largest of the international ships require the channels be dug to a depth of 50 feet. This

is accomplished through dredging done by companies contracted through Baltimore District. A handful of the channels that support the Port of Baltimore are dredged yearly on a rotating basis to ensure continued safe travel for vessels. In fiscal 2020, the Corps removed 5.5 million cubic yards of material from six different Baltimore Harbor channels.

The material removed from the Harbor may consist of mud, silt, sand, shell and other like mixtures. Material from the Baltimore Harbor approach channels in the Maryland waters of the Chesapeake Bay are beneficially reused at the Paul S. Sarbanes Ecosystem Restoration Project at Poplar Island.

To track the conditions of channels and support dredging operations, hydrographic surveys are conducted using cutting-edge technology to determine the depth of waterways. In 2019, Baltimore District conducted 92 deep and shallow draft surveys.

These were done not only in channels associated with Baltimore Harbor, but also in other remote, shallow-water projects that support the local commerce and fishing industry. These extensive surveys determined the

necessary dredging required for the upcoming year.

In addition to surveying and dredging, the Corps' Debris Vessel REYNOLDS patrols Baltimore Harbor, removing large debris that may cause damage, financial losses and safety hazards to both commercial and recreational vessels. This debris collection intensifies after storms, high-tide events and during high river flows. In fiscal 2019, Baltimore Harbor's debris unit removed 275,000 pounds of debris from its area of operations that includes the Patapsco River and its tributaries and spans 24 square miles.

With sediment dredged and debris removed from the shipping channels yearly, this allows the Port of Baltimore to benefit the economy in Maryland as well as the rest of the United States.

"Specific to the Port of Baltimore, our work supports the regional economy with 130,000 jobs linked to the Port, which generates about \$3 billion in business and facilitates the movement of 40 million tons of international cargo worth more than \$50 billion annually," said Baltimore District Navigation Section Chief Graham Mcallister. ■



An Army Corps contracted dredge operated by Norfolk Dredging lifts material out of Curtis Bay Channel in Baltimore Harbor. (U.S. Army photo by Chris Gardner)

**275 thousand**  
pounds of debris removed  
in FY19

**~5.5 million**  
cubic yards of material dredged from 6 channels  
in FY20

**>92 total**  
deep & shallow draft channel surveys conducted  
in FY19

**BALTIMORE DISTRICT**  
operates and maintains **290+ miles** of federal navigable channels within the Susquehanna River Watershed.

**PORT OF BALTIMORE**

**\$**

- 139,000 jobs linked to the Port
- 15,330 direct jobs
- \$3B in business

**1**

**Ranked #1 in:**

- automobiles and light trucks
- roll-on and roll-off heavy equipment
- imported sugar and gypsum

- Facilitates the movement of 40M tons of international cargo, worth more than \$50B annually
- 2,000+ cargo vessels & cruise ships pass through annually

**2**  
**Ranked #2 in:**  
• exported coal

(U.S. Army graphic by Nicole Strong)



# AROUND THE DISTRICT

## ACCESS CONTROL POINT

The gates at the new Mapes Access Control Point open for the general public following a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, June 1. The \$15 million Mapes ACP project added two additional lanes at the entry point as well as a serpentine road design that meets anti-terrorism/force protection standards. It also widened Mapes Road from two to four lanes to help ease congestion for the thousands of employees, residents and family members who drive through the entry point on a daily basis. (U.S. Army photo by David Gray)



## TOBYHANNA

Crews working at the former Tobyhanna Artillery Range Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) modified their utility terrain vehicles with plastic sheeting to separate passengers to reduce their COVID-19 risks while traveling long distances to different sections of the site, which covers several hundred acres. In May, crews mobilized to carry out a munitions and explosives of concern removal action at the FUDS project in Pennsylvania and incorporated several safety protocols to reduce the risks for team members associated with COVID-19, including the UTV modifications. (Courtesy Photo)



## WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT

Brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, North Atlantic Division commander, visits the Washington Aqueduct, in Washington, D.C., Aug. 11, 2020. Tom Jacobus, Washington Aqueduct general manager; Col. John Litz, Baltimore District commander, and other Aqueduct employees led a tour of the facility that showcased their day-to-day operations, including modifications made to protect employee health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tickner assumed command of the North Atlantic Division on July 15, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by David Gray)

## TWO-BAY HANGAR

A C-17 Globemaster III assigned to the 911th Airlift Wing becomes the first aircraft parked in the new two-bay hangar at the Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania, June 4, 2020. The new two-bay hangar will allow Airmen to safely perform maintenance on C-17 Globemaster III aircraft away from weather that could potentially cause delays and damage. In collaboration with the Pittsburgh and Louisville districts, Baltimore District engineers oversaw the construction management of the hangar. (U.S. Air Force photo by Joshua J. Seybert)



## U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE

The Baltimore District helped break ground on the future strategic learning center for the U.S. Army War College June 14 at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. With more than 201,000 square feet of space, the \$84.5 million-dollar facility will enhance the college's ability to develop strategic leaders. The current academic building, Root Hall, was constructed for the school's 1960s-era throughput of 200 resident students annually. The 2021 USAWC class is projected to be nearly 400 students. (Artist Illustration)



# FEST-A

## ENGINEERING EXPERTS READY TO DEPLOY

COMPILED BY CHRIS FINCHAM

*While the timing and location of the team's next deployment isn't set, they stand ready to solve tough engineering challenges around the world.*

**B**altimore District has a small, specialized team that sometimes goes under the radar. Team members of the 71st Engineer Detachment, Forward Engineer Support Team – Advance (FEST-A) deploy around the world, bringing engineering expertise and solutions to the military and countries in need.

The 71st FEST-A is one of eight rapidly deploying, advance-engineering teams throughout the Corps.

The 71st Detachment consists of Baltimore District active-duty Soldiers and civilian employees who primarily specialize in mechanical, civil, environmental, and electrical engineering, as well as cartography — providing a diversity of expertise to support global operations.

The team's most recent missions include their immediate response to Hurricane Michael at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, and their certification exercise at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Tasks included critical infrastructure surveys; engineer operations; base camp planning and drawdown; geospatial operations; and construction planning, design, and management.

In 2018, the team also deployed to Europe and completed 35 design projects that aided U.S. Army Europe in preparation for their large annual field training exercise, Resolute Castle. The construction designs supported projects throughout Eastern Europe to help bring troop training facilities

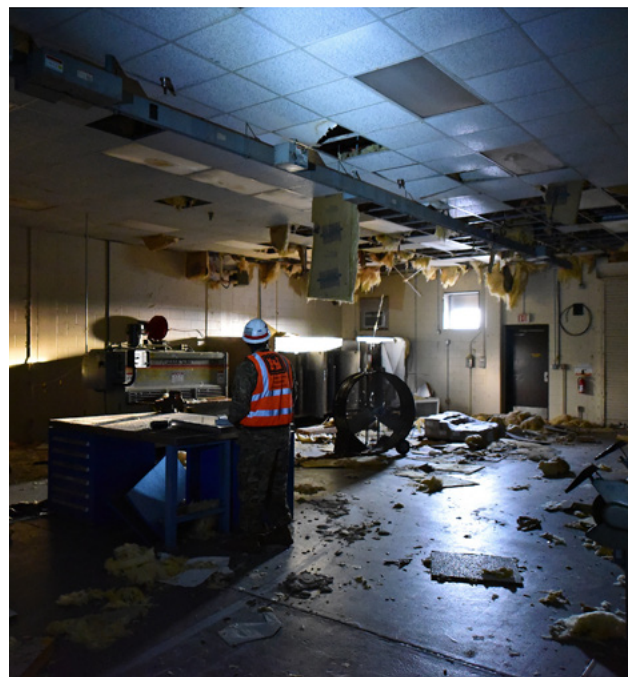
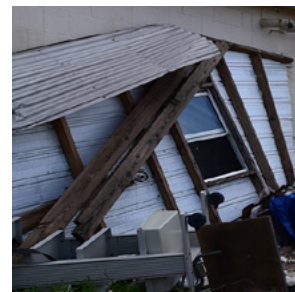
up to U.S. standards.

After more than three years with the unit, Sgt. 1st Class Yvin Valcin, the 71st FEST-A senior enlisted advisor, has deployed to Germany, Africa, Alaska, and Hawaii. He said the team's work in Florida after Hurricane Michael stands out for him.

"We conducted over 200 damage assessments, cost estimates, and the scope of work of all the major facilities. Those assessments directly supported the Mobile District, with the cost assessment to repair or rebuild each facility on the entire base," Valcin explained. "Knowing that I was part of a mission that helped Tyndall Air Force Base get back to its operational phase after the hurricane was very rewarding for me."

The unit recently changed leadership during a ceremony at Baltimore District's headquarters. With a variety of missions on the horizon, the new commander is looking forward to working with such a professional and impactful group.

"As the new commander of the 71st FEST-A, I am extremely excited about the opportunities that await the team within the District and while forward-deployed," said Maj. Jonathan Judy, who took command in July. "These motivated USACE teammates consistently display selfless service to their country, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the U.S. Army. Their personal dedication and technical engineering expertise have led the 71st FEST-A to mission success time and time again." ■



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Members of the FEST-A conduct a damage assessment on a facility at Tyndall Air Force Base after Hurricane Michael in November 2018. (Courtesy photo)

The team conducts a survey of a failed road at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, as part of a certification exercise in preparation for the immediate response program. (Courtesy photo)

A member of the team participates in an aerial route recon in August 2018 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. (Courtesy photo)

Sgt. 1st Class Yvin Valcin conducts a damage assessment inside a facility at Tyndall Air Force Base after Hurricane Michael in November 2018. (Courtesy photo)



# RAYSTOWN

## A RAIN GARDEN FOR POLLINATORS



A visitor reads signage about the rain garden at Raystown Lake. (U.S. Army photos by David Gray)



An Eastern tiger swallowtail in the rain garden.

*Just outside of the Raystown Lake Visitor Center is a Rain Garden for Pollinators. The rain garden is landscaped so that the flowers will soak up storm water runoff while also providing a habitat for pollinators*

## PAIGE HOLLIBAUGH

Raised in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, Park Ranger Paige Hollibaugh grew up loving Raystown Lake. After spending the summer of 2019 as a conservation education intern with RayCEP, a partnership between Juniata College and The Friends of Raystown Lake, she's now in her first year as a park ranger with the Army Corps.

"I think the best part about being a park ranger is coming to work every day at such a beautiful project," Hollibaugh said. "The sheer amount of wilderness there is to experience at Raystown makes every day a surprise, with something new to see."

From answering questions, to managing traffic and patrolling campsites, park rangers routinely fulfill multiple roles.

"Our primary objective is visitor assistance, but we do so much more than just that," she explained. "I could fill a book with all the different jobs I've had the opportunity to experience this summer. We work hard to maintain a consistent, welcoming presence to the public, ensuring that we're available to answer questions, lend a hand, or give helpful advice when needed. We make sure to keep the lake and its land as pristine as possible."

*"When I'm able to help someone experience what I love most about Raystown, I call it a successful day."*

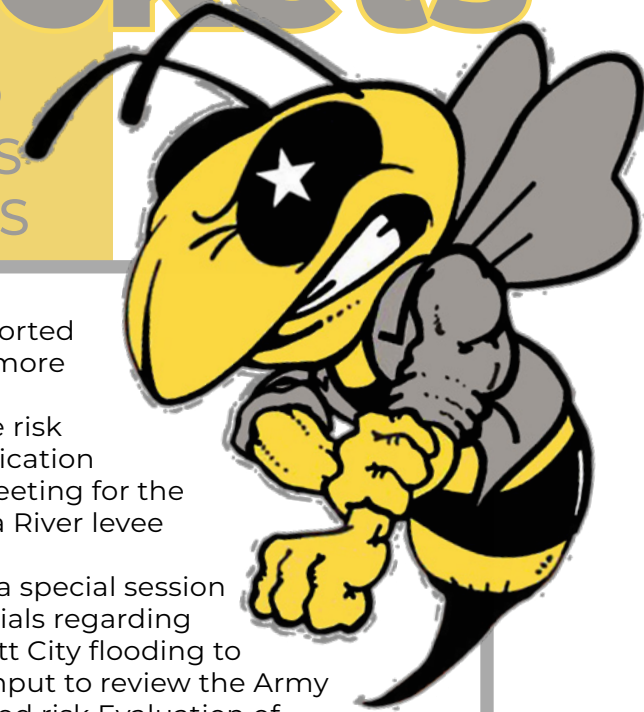
"It's been a strange year, but we've all managed to adapt quite well and still have a successful, busy summer." ■



Park Ranger Paige Hollibaugh. (U.S. Army photo by David Gray)

# Silver Jackets

MARYLAND  
TEAM EARNS  
TOP HONORS



BY BRITTANY CRISSMAN

The Maryland Silver Jackets has been recognized as the 2019 team of the year. This award exemplifies their successful collaborative skills that promote resiliency in support of Maryland's flood risk management priorities. The team, convened in 2010, consists of federal, regional, state, local, national and academic agencies.

Silver Jackets team members across the country had the opportunity to vote on which team they think models the Silver Jackets mission and has gone above and beyond in the preceding year. In 2019, the Maryland Silver Jackets team built a roadmap to success for all Silver Jacket teams to follow.

"Silver Jackets teams are only as good as their state, federal, and local representatives," said Jason Stick, Baltimore District Silver Jackets coordinator. "The Maryland team has several great contributors who genuinely care about the work they do."

The team has successfully empowered local communication by creating flood-risk tools, consistently engaging in community outreach and support, updating flood modeling and mapping, and using multi-disciplinary approaches. In 2019, the Maryland Silver Jackets hosted multiple flood proofing workshops. They were structured to share knowledge and build further cohesive solutions for Maryland communities with full consideration of economic, cultural and environmental impacts.

Throughout the year, the Maryland Silver Jackets continuously made significant impact across the state including:

- Supported the Baltimore District's first levee risk communication public meeting for the Anacostia River levee system.
- Held a special session with officials regarding the Ellicott City flooding to provide input to review the Army Corps' flood risk Evaluation of Alternatives Study.
- Supported the Maryland Flood Tabletop exercise and first state Flood Insurance Roundtable hosted by the Maryland Department of the Environment.
- Developed flood proofing concept plans for eight sample historical buildings in Baltimore City, which the city will use as part of their outreach program. With the input and participation from Silver Jackets team members, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) hosted a workshop and developed the "Flood Mitigation Guide: Maryland's Historic Building," as a tool to aid local governments in historic preservation and flood risk management.
- The Maryland Silver Jackets team is currently developing a mapping tool that uses the National Weather Service's National Water Model data to develop real-time flood inundation maps in watersheds without stream gauges. This will help local officials understand flood risk and enable them to take actions to reduce the risk.
- The Maryland Silver Jackets team strives to empower local communities, serving as a significant resource to provide solutions before flooding challenges arise. ■



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,  
Baltimore District

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