

H. Donovan Phillips Jr. appointed as Delaware member of Chesapeake Bay Local Government Advisory Committee

DOVER – Governor Jack Markell has appointed H. Donovan Phillips, Jr. to serve as a member of the Chesapeake Bay Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), created by the Chesapeake Bay Executive Council through the 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement. The Chesapeake Executive Council – whose members include the governors of Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Chesapeake Bay Commission Chair and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator – was established in 1983 with responsibilities for guiding the Chesapeake Bay Program’s policy agenda and setting conservation and restoration goals for the bay.

Mr. Phillips, Delaware’s LGAC appointee, is a Laurel town councilman, and a founding member, chairman, and board member of the Laurel Redevelopment Corporation (LRC). The mission of the LRC, a non-profit corporation, is to enhance the quality of life in Laurel by obtaining, rehabilitating and revitalizing properties that increase economic development for the town.

DNREC and the Division of Watershed Stewardship work in partnership with the Town of Laurel, the LRC and Chesapeake Bay LGAC to enhance the natural assets along the waterfront of Broad Creek, a tributary of the Nanticoke River. The LRC’s vision is to create activities and businesses that will enhance the attractiveness of the town while protecting and improving the health of important aquatic resources. The LRC owns, develops, and protects the parks and properties along 95

percent of the Broad Creek shoreline within the town's boundaries.

As an LGAC member, Mr. Phillips will advise the Chesapeake Executive Council on how to effectively implement projects and engage the support of local governments to achieve the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Signatories to the 2014 agreement include representatives from the entire watershed, committing for the first time the Bay's headwater states to full partnership in the Bay Program.

The Chesapeake Bay LGAC's mission is to share the views and insights of local elected officials with state and federal decision-makers, and to enhance the flow of information among local governments about the health and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Also of importance to the LGAC's mission is the challenge of nutrient and sediment load reduction facing local jurisdictions within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

More information on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement can be found at <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/chesapeakebaywatershedagreement/page>. More information on the Chesapeake Bay Local Government Advisory Committee can be found at http://www.chesapeakebay.net/groups/group/local_government_advisory_committee

Contact: Jennifer Walls, DNREC Watershed Assessment and Management Section 302-739-9939; email: jennifer.walls@delaware.gov

Vol. 46, No. 434