



Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary

Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor



Robert S. McCord, Secretary  
Sandy Schrader, Deputy Secretary

October 11, 2019

Dear Local Partner:

As you may be aware, Maryland House Bill 1427 (Chapter 442 of the Laws of 2019) requires that “[o]n or before October 1, 2020, a local jurisdiction that experiences nuisance flooding shall develop a plan to address nuisance flooding.” The law further requires that, “[a] local jurisdiction that develops a plan to address nuisance flooding shall submit a copy of the nuisance flooding plan to the Maryland Department of Planning.” “Nuisance flooding” is defined as “high tide flooding that causes public inconvenience.”

Pursuant to the same law, in order to assist local jurisdictions in assessing their nuisance flooding risks and to publish guidelines on ways to complete the plan requirement, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, with assistance from the Department of Planning (Planning) and other state and local partners, developed the enclosed guidance. The nuisance flood plan guidance is meant to provide general direction and to assist with a local jurisdiction’s decision-making process on how to meet the requirement. Our departments hope that you will find this guidance useful. We recognize the resourcefulness, ingenuity, and leadership within Maryland’s communities and know that your community might identify additional ways to address the challenge of nuisance flooding that are not described in the guidance.

In addition, the Community Resilience Program was created to assist local governments with addressing short-and long-term climate hazards such as flooding, storm surge, and sea level rise. Through this program, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources provides financial and technical assistance, training opportunities and links to supportive information, decision support tools, and state resource networks. Please contact Sasha Land at Natural Resources with questions or for more information at [sasha.land@maryland.gov](mailto:sasha.land@maryland.gov) or by phone at 410.260.8718.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to you for developing a plan to address nuisance flooding and for our continuing partnership to build a strong field of practice to advance climate resilience for the benefit of your community now and for future generations.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio  
Secretary of Natural Resources

Robert McCord  
Secretary of Planning