

JASON PAPACOSMA

Experienced local government leader and collaborator committed to the highest standards of work for stewardship of the public good.

LEADERSHIP PRIORITIES

- Organizational collaboration and synergy
- Environmental stewardship
- Servant leadership
- Team building

EXPERIENCE

2009 – PRESENT

WATERSHED PROGRAMS MANAGER, ARLINGTON COUNTY

Lead the County's regulatory and stewardship programs focused on water quality and stream health. Responsible for strategic and effective delivery of watershed management programs from policy and planning through implementation, operations, and maintenance. Lead an interdisciplinary team of project managers, engineers, landscape architects, and scientists. Key Program areas of focus include:

- Inter-agency collaboration to implement programs and projects.
- Capital program execution for green infrastructure and stream restoration and repair.
- Inter-agency coordination to ensure compliance with the County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit.
- Multi-unit implementation of the Stormwater Management Ordinance and Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, emphasizing rigor, consistency, and coordination in policy, business processes, and regulatory decision-making.
- Inspection, operation, and maintenance of public and private stormwater management facilities.
- Performance tracking, asset management, and reporting systems.
- Representation with state and federal regulatory agencies and regional coordination activities.
- Communication with senior and executive management and the County Board.
- Strategy, budgeting, forecasting, and climate resilience planning.
- Community engagement and accountability.

1999 – 2009

WATERSHED PLANNER, ARLINGTON COUNTY

Progressively increasing programmatic and regulatory responsibility and leadership to implement a comprehensive watershed management program for a highly urbanized local government. Key accomplishments included authoring the County's first Watershed Management Plan, implementing the County's first Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, and working to enact comprehensive updates to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance in 2003 and establish dedicated stormwater funding in 2008.

1997 – 1999

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT MANAGER, MARASCO NEWTON GROUP, LTD.

Provided project management and technical analysis for a wide variety of environmental program areas for US EPA client, including Brownfields program, Superfund Hazard Ranking System, environmental risk assessment, and Clean Water Act impaired waters/TMDL programs. Managed work of several junior staff.

1993 – 1997

RESEARCH ANALYST, INVESTOR RESPONSIBILITY RESEARCH CENTER

Researched and analyzed environmental performance of S&P 500 companies to produce annual directory for institutional investment clients. Gathered, analyzed, and summarized environmental performance and compliance data from federal, state, and corporate sources. Wrote detailed reports analyzing shareholder resolutions during shareholder voting season.

EDUCATION

MAY 1998

MASTER OF SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

MAY 1992

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND BIOLOGY, BOWDOIN COLLEGE

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

- Department of Environmental Services Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (2020-present; co-chair 2023-present)
- Arlington County Leaders Challenge (2017-2018).
- Arlington County Mid-Level Managers Training (2014).
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Water Resources Technical Committee, Chair (2017-present), Vice Chair (2015-2017). Recent committee work includes developing a blueprint of best practices for planning, designing, building, and maintaining stream restoration projects.
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Urban Trees as BMPs Stakeholder Advisory Group (2021)
- Chesapeake Bay Program Expert Panels (Impervious Cover Disconnection, 2016-17; Urban Stormwater Retrofits, 2014-15)
- Chesapeake Stormwater Network Stoneroller Award, 2014
- Center for Watershed Protection Community Watershed Achievement Award, 2012

COMMUNITY SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

- Arlington Public Schools, Advisory Council on Teaching and Learning (ACTL) Leadership Team. Vice Chair (2021-2022 school year).
- Arlington Public Schools, ACTL. Chair, Science Advisory committee (2019-2020, 2020-21 school years). Developed strategic recommendations to improve equity and opportunity for students for independent science projects and outdoor and nature-based learning.
- Arlington Living Schoolyard Initiative. 2020-2021.