

National Environment and Planning Agency

The National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) was established in 2001 as an Executive Agency under the Executive Agencies Act. NEPA was founded to carry out the technical (functional) and administrative mandate of three statutory bodies – the **Natural Resources & Conservation Authority** (NRCA), the **Town & Country Planning Authority** (TCPA), and the **Land Development & Utilization Commission** (LDUC).

NEPA MISSION

Jamaica's natural resources are used in a sustainable way and there is broad understanding of environment, planning and development issues, with extensive participation amongst citizens and a high level of compliance with relevant legislation.

NEPA VISION

To promote sustainable development by ensuring the protection of the environment and orderly development in Jamaica through highly motivated staff performing at the highest standard.

NEPA VALUES

- Integrity
- Customer Service
- Justice & Fair-play
- Empowerment
- Accountability
- Teamwork
- Respect
- Health & Safety

Legal Framework

NEPA operates under the following Acts:

- Executive Agencies Act
- Beach Control Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Land Development and Utilization Act
- Natural Resources Conservation Authority Act
- Town and Country Planning Act
- Wild Life Protection Act
- Watersheds Protection Act

Functions

Some of NEPA's primary roles and functions are:

- Conservation & Protection (Natural Resources Management)
- Environmental Management
- Spatial Planning
- Compliance & Enforcement
- Applications Management
- Public Education
- Policy and Research
- Legal Services & Standards Management

Financing

NEPA's operations are financed by recurrent budget allocations from the Government of Jamaica (GoJ) Consolidated Fund through the Ministry of Finance; and Appropriation-in-Aid through (50% of) Natural Resources Conservation Authority (NRCA) fees derived from permits and licences.

Projects are financed by budget allocations from the GoJ Consolidated Fund Capital "A" and "B" and from technical assistance grants and project financing from NRCA funds, and various donor organisations.

Leadership & Organisation

NEPA is led by the Chief Executive Officer who is supported by a team of Directors and Managers. The organisation's divisions, sub-divisions, branches and units are:

1. OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- Internal Audit Unit
- Human Resources Management & Development Branch

2. CORPORATE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

- Finance & Accounts Branch
- Facilities Management & Operations Branch
- Public Education & Corporate Communication Branch
- Information Technology Branch

3. PLANNING, PROJECTS, EVALUATION & RESEARCH DIVISION

- Planning, Evaluation & Research Branch
- Projects Branch

4. APPLICATIONS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

- Development Assistance Centre
- Applications Secretariat Branch
- Applications Processing Branch

5. LEGAL & ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

- Authorities Secretariat
- Legal Services Branch
- Enforcement Branch

6. SPATIAL PLANNING DIVISION

- Local Area Planning Branch
- National Spatial Strategy Branch

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT & CONSERVATION DIVISION

Conservation & Protection Subdivision

- Protected Areas Branch
- Ecosystems Management Branch

Environmental Management Subdivision

- Pollution Prevention Branch
- Pollution Monitoring & Assessment Branch
- Air Quality Management Branch

SERVICES AND PRODUCTS

NEPA provides an extensive number of services and products to industry, other government agencies and the general public. Some of the products and services provided are:

Products

- Environmental Permits (Various categories)
- Environmental Licences (Various categories)
- Beach Licences (Various categories)
- Air Discharge Licences
- Hazardous Waste (Transboundary Movement) Permits
- Hazardous Waste (Transport, Storage, Treatment, Disposal) Permits
- Wild Life Exemptions
- Watershed Development Management Projects Permits
- Eco-tourism Projects Permits
- Industrial Projects Permits
- Solid Waste Treatment and Disposal Facilities Permits
- Permits for construction of new highways and arterial roads
- Permits for Port and Harbour Developments

Services

- Comments to Local Authorities for Planning and Subdivision Applications
- Comments on Restrictive Covenants Application
- Closure Plan Review & Closure Implementation Monitoring
- Remediation Plan Review & Remediation Implementation Monitoring
- Laboratory Assessments
- Development Assistance for development ideas
- Pollution Incident Response
- Wildlife Incident response
- Community Awareness & Training
- Information and resource materials on environmental spatial planning and natural resources matters
- Advice on land-use, set-back from side boundaries, parking, distance and heights of buildings
- Documentation Centre (Library) for Research
- Access to Information Response

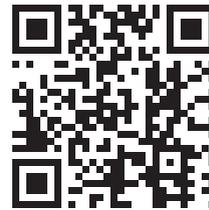
For additional information contact:
National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)
10 & 11 Caledonia Avenue
Kingston 5, Jamaica

Telephone:
754-7540

Toll Free:
1-888-991-5005

Fax:
754-7595/6

Email:
pubed@nepa.gov.jm



Website:
www.nepa.gov.jm

 [Twitter.com/nepajamaica](https://twitter.com/nepajamaica)

 facebook.com/nepajamaica

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*An Agency of the
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and Climate Change*



National Environment and Planning Agency



*Managing and protecting Jamaica's,
land, wood and water*