

# DNREC FY27 @ JFC



# Who We Are & What We Do

## Office of the Secretary

- Natural Resources Police
- Office of Environmental Justice
- Office of Budget & Finance
- Office of Communications
- Office of Administrative Services
- Office of Business Services
- Office of Human Resources



## Fish & Wildlife

- 19 Wildlife Areas
- 60 Boat Ramps
- Boat Registration and Boating Safety
- Delaware Bayshore
- Fisheries and Wildlife Management
- Hunting and Fishing Licenses
- Mosquito Control



## Parks & Recreation

- 17 State Parks
- 20 Vendors and Concessionaires
- Camping, Cottages and Cabins
- 8 Million Annual Visitors
- Outstanding Volunteer Support
- Two-time Award-Winning Gold Medal Park System



## Watershed Stewardship

- Beach Preservation
- Dam Safety
- Drainage, Dredging
- Tax Ditches
- Water Quality in 45 Watersheds
- Wetlands
- Waterway Marking



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

# Who We Are & What We Do

## Climate, Coastal & Energy

- Climate and Sustainability
- Coastal Zone
- Energy Efficiency and Renewables
- Federal Consistency for Coastal Projects
- Research: Blackbird Creek and St. Jones Reserves
- Weatherization



## Air Quality

- Air Permits
- Air Monitoring
- Vehicle Emissions
- Emissions Inventory



## Water

- Dock and Subaqueous Permits
- Environmental Lab
- Septic Permits
- Wastewater Treatment Systems
- Well Permits



## Waste & Hazardous Substances

- Boiler Safety
- Emergency Response
- Recycling
- Site Remediation, including Brownfields
- Solid Waste Permits
- Storage Tanks



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
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# FY26 Operating Budget Revenue

**22%**

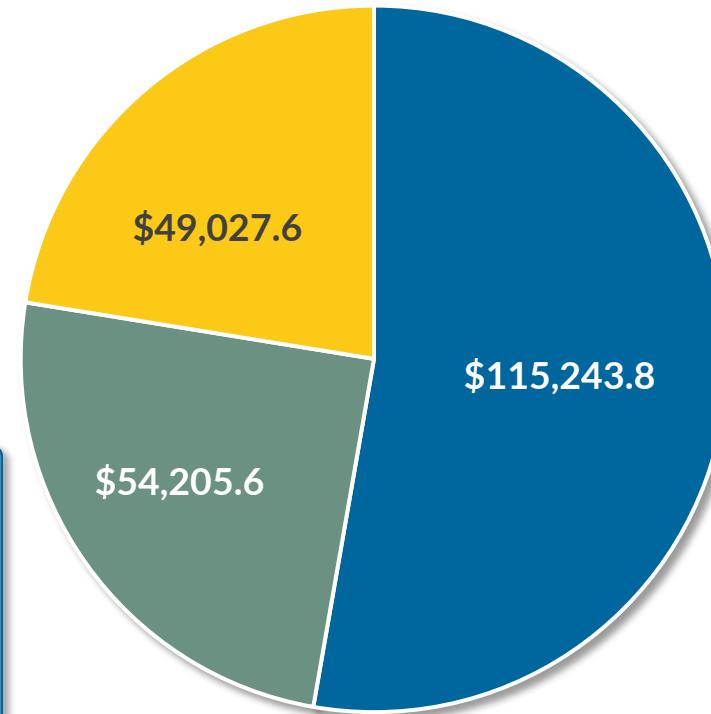
## Non-Appropriated Special Funds

Primarily federal funds, with other non-recurring revenues, such as penalty funds, settlements, and donations.

**25%**

## General Funds

State funds allocated by the General Assembly and the Governor as part of the state budget.



**53%**

## Appropriated Special Funds

Collected revenue, fees, and other charges by DNREC for services within spending limits set in the state budget.



# Update: Federal Funds



## Dept. of Energy Grants at Risk

- \$64 million, HOMES efficiency and electrification programs
- \$7 million, net-zero-capable building codes
- \$10 million, building performance standards



## Congressional FFY26 “Minibus”

- Coastal Zone Management (\$300,000)
- National Estuarine Research Reserve (\$200,000)



## Federal Project Funding

# Update: Positions



- FY27: 783.0 FTEs Total
  - 367.3 GF FTEs
  - 240.3 ASF FTEs
  - 175.4 NSF FTEs
- Vacancy Rate: 9% (72.0 FTEs) as of 2.11.26
  - 76% of Vacancies are in Recruitment/Pending Reclass
  - 4 FTEs vacant  $\geq$  3 years are currently in active recruitment
  - Vacancies  $\geq$  3 yrs Feb. 2025 all filled

# FY27 Operating GRB

## Reductions

- Internship Program (\$30.0)
- Contractual Services (\$114.0)
- Supplies (\$32.0)

## Additions

- Personnel Contingency from FY26 Salary Increase \$1,682.1
- ASF Authority Increases
- No added positions



# New Performance Measures\*

Division	Performance Measure	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Governor's Recommended
Coastal, Climate, and Energy	% progress towards Tree for Every Delawarean 1,000,000 trees planted	*	*	45
Natural Resources Police	# of calls for service, including boating violations, park fee evasions, open burning, illegal dumping, criminal violations and motor vehicle violations	*	*	17,220
Water	% of Subaqueous Permits processed within 120 working days	*	*	80
Water	% of Division of Water licensing renewals completed within 30 days upon receipt of a complete online application	*	*	100

\*From a newly revised list of 30 DNREC performance measures for FY 27





# Freshwater Wetlands Protection Legislation

- Brand new regulatory program
- Staff and resources needed:
  - Division of Water
  - Division of Watershed Stewardship
  - Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Fiscal note in development

# Permitting Reform

## 2025 Progress

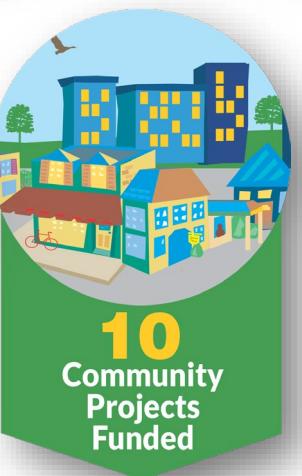
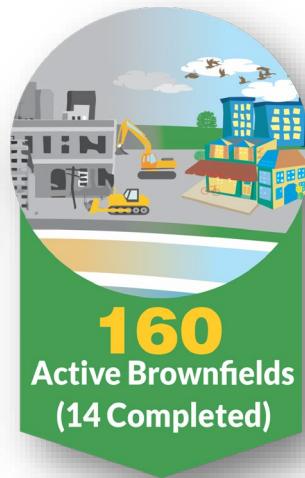
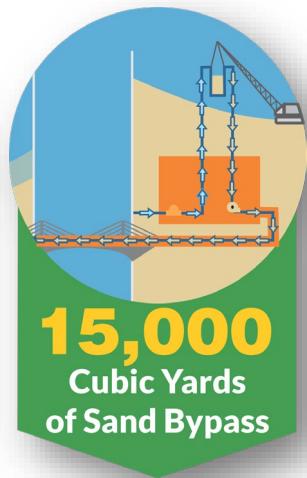
- More Wetlands and Waterways applications approved than submitted
  - Process efficiency
  - Technology and digitization
  - Staffing
- New online dashboards
  - Well and septic permits
  - Subaqueous permits
- Air Quality permits online
- Fish & Wildlife turkey registration online

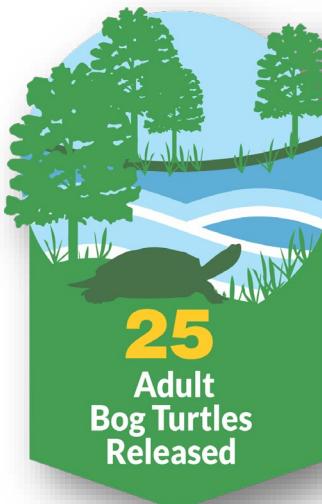
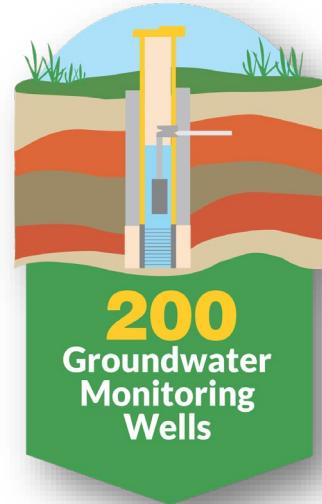
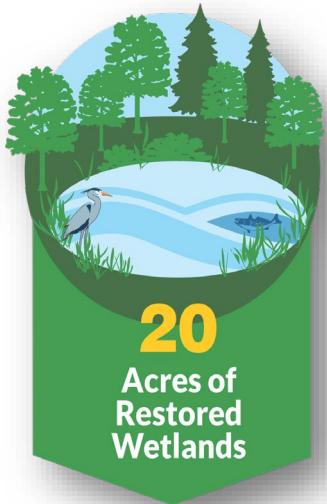


## What's Next

- Implement General Permits and Statewide Activity Permits for Wetlands and Waterways
- Implement staff retention and recruitment strategies
- Update and reorganize subaqueous statute via legislation

# Field Trip Friday Facts for 2025







# Questions & Discussion