

The Ministry of The Environment

- Public and community engagement in a partnership which helps to establish a consensus on producing a greener, more sustainable Bahamas.

Department of Environmental Health Services

- Immediate national waste disposal and cleanliness
- Waste to Energy production with recycling and reuse.

Department of Physical Planning and The Met Department

- Implementation of new and updated building standards which take into consideration drainage, flood plains, elevation, and impact on mangroves and wetlands; incorporation of tools such as cluster development and coverage factors (trees, concrete, buildings etc).

BEST and The Met Department

- Research and evaluation of the impacts of Climate Change on the Bahamian tourism economy, rising sea levels, beach erosion, reef systems and other climate sensitive resources. Additionally to develop strategies and lifestyle changes for adaptation to Climate Change designed to combat risks and effects.

BEST and The Department of Physical Planning

- Establishment of a transparent, efficient and streamlined environmental impact assessment and management process for development; whether that development be related to a subdivision, expansion of an existing structure, a mixed use resort, or a foreign direct investment project.

Port Department

- Safe navigational channels in all the Bahamas, efficient Docks Committee and clean harbors.

Bahamas Electricity Corporation

- Convert the Bahamas to an energy mix which results in greater energy security through the use of renewable resources and a sound energy policy.
- Energy conservation

Water and Sewerage Corporation

- Oversee the provision of Potable water to every community in the Bahamas
- Safeguard ground water resources

The Botanic Gardens

- Produce trees for the landscaping of all Public Places.

Forestry

- Enact a Forestry Act.

Bahamas Maritime Authority

- Establish a Bahamas Maritime Institute with the University of The Bahamas.

Bahamas National Geographical Information Centre

- Provide spatial support to enable accurate planning by all agencies.

The formation of a Ministry which focuses on environmental matters does not relinquish the role, responsibility, and duty of each citizen to be good stewards in managing the environmental resources vested to us.

From the destruction of mangroves and filling in of wetlands, to the proliferation of garbage, derelict vehicles, dirt, filth, and grime that pervades our country; it is evident that an overall sense of environmental stewardship is lacking in many parts of our society and will undoubtedly pose one of the Ministry's greatest challenges moving forward.

There is much work to be done to promote a sense of stewardship, increase environmental awareness and sensitivity in the public domain, foster greater respect for our natural resources; and help Bahamians make the connection between human health, quality of life, and the quality of the physical environment which surrounds them. It is work that the Ministry of The Environment accepts.

The Ministry welcomes the participation and cooperation of environmentally focused groups, organizations and Non Government Organization's such as the Bahamas National Trust, The Nature Conservancy, The Perry Marine Institute, Friends of The Environment, reEarth and BREEF, in promoting a greater sense of environmental stewardship and accountability throughout all levels of our society. Undoubtedly, this attitude of stewardship and accountability must begin at home. It is my aim to populate the Ministry with those persons whose thoughts, actions and attitudes are consistent with my Ministry's goals.