

## Coastal Bays Heroes

This is the fifth in a series of articles celebrating our “Coastal Bay Heroes” – those who have contributed to the establishment and ongoing work of the Maryland Coastal Bays Program.

Sandy Coyman



Sandy Coyman was a very active and influential board member of the program.

Coyman was the Director of Worcester County Department of Comprehensive Planning department which dissolved in a department consolidation. As head of that department, he worked to make Worcester County a leader in planning and helped Worcester County win a 2006 award for its' nationally recognized comprehensive plan.

He also oversaw the implementation of land protection programs such as the Coastal Bays Rural Legacy Area program, the county's Agricultural Land Preservation Program, and the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program. These programs have permanently protected over 8,000 acres of farms and forests in the county since 2000.

Coyman's job also included tracking trends and anticipating future community needs, educating citizens, and getting them involved in community stewardships, supplementing local monies with grants and managing the county-wide Geographic Information System, among other duties.

After his position dissolved in Worcester County, he was hired by Talbot County to head the planning and zoning department. He is currently the Planning and Water Quality Consultant with Earth Data, Inc.