



### **Noise Pollution Control**

The noise pollution control functions of the Department are to:

- Regulate and monitor environmental noise levels in accordance with national policy;
- Investigate complaints of potential environmental noise pollution;
- Research environmental noise issues; and
- Make recommendations to inform the development of policies aimed at controlling environmental noise.

### **Solid Waste Regulation**

The Department is the regulatory agency for solid waste management and its functions are to:

- Regulate and monitor solid waste disposal sites; and
- Make policy recommendations to inform the regulation of solid waste management.

### **Water Quality Monitoring**

The water quality monitoring functions of the Department are:

- Monitoring of groundwater supply wells, public springs and recreational waters;
- Enforcing water quality policies and standards;
- Monitoring sewage treatment plants; and
- Investigating and evaluating the impact of discharges to the environment.



**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT**

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

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# Environmental Protection Department

## WHAT IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT?

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is a regulatory government agency, established in 1971, with responsibility for environmental monitoring and control of conditions likely to affect the quality of the land, air and water and the general health and environmental well-being of the inhabitants of Barbados.

## WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE EPD?

The mission of the EPD is to preserve and improve Barbados' quality of life and its natural and built environment, through the promotion of sustainable practices, education, partnerships, and the enforcement of legislation.

## WHAT ARE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE EPD?

### Air Pollution Control

The air pollution control functions of the Department are to:

- Regulate and monitor ambient air quality;
- Investigate ambient air quality complaints;
- Research ambient air quality issues;
- Develop policy recommendations; and
- Implement policies and programmes to control discharges to ambient air.

### Building Development Control

The EPD enforces the Health Services Act, CAP. 44 and Regulations related to building development control. This involves:

- The processing of building development applications to assess compliance with the Health Services (Building) Regulations, 1969, other relevant Health Services Regulations and the Groundwater Protection Zoning Policy; and
- Inspecting developments during and after construction to determine compliance with conditions of approval.

### Derelict Buildings & Vehicles

The EPD identifies derelict buildings and vehicles with the assistance of the Environmental Health Department and the general public. Derelict buildings are demolished in accordance with the Health Services Act, CAP. 44 and derelict vehicles may be disposed in accordance with the Health Services (Collection and Disposal of Refuse) Regulations, 1975. The primary purpose of the Derelict Programme is to remove potential vector breeding sites from within communities in the interest of public health.

### Emergency Response

The Department is one of the government agencies involved in emergency planning and response: The Department contributes to:

- National emergency planning and response;
- Oil spill contingency planning and response; and
- Hazardous materials contingency planning and response.

### Hazardous Materials Management

The hazardous materials management functions of the Department are to:

- Regulate and facilitate the disposal of hazardous waste;
- Collect information on the location of hazardous materials;
- Prepare public educational materials on the safe use, handling, transport and disposal of hazardous materials;
- Advise on the best disposal methods for hazardous waste; and
- Recommend policies for hazardous materials management.

### Marine Pollution Control

The Department is responsible for enforcing the Marine Pollution Control Act CAP. 392A. The functions of the Department are to:

- Characterise sources of pollution;
- Investigate complaints or pollution incidents related to the marine environment;
- Develop and maintain a Register of Pollutants which lists pollutants and their discharge standards; and
- Regulate discharges to the environment and perform inspections of companies that discharge waste into the marine environment.