

International Environmental Conventions We Support

Cartagena Convention (Ozone depleting Substances)

SPAW Protocol (Protected Areas)

Biodiversity Convention

LBS Protocol (Land Based Sources of Marine Pollution)

Montreal Protocol (Protection of the Ozone Layer)

CITES (Convention on International trade in Endangered species)

RAMSAR Convention on Specially Protected Areas

Convention on Climate Change

How you can help

- Help us to help you by seeking information when in doubt about your environmental and planning obligation
- **REMEMBER**
Ignorance of the law is no excuse



National Environment and Planning Agency

Vision

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

Mission

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

For additional information on the Legal Services Branch contact:

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Create an Environment for a Better Living.

National Environment and Planning Agency

NEPA

Legal Services Branch

A Service Oriented Unit



Using the Law to Protect the Natural and Built Environment



Managing & Protecting Jamaica's Land, Wood and Water

Who are we?



We are a team of dedicated attorneys and support staff, working in conjunction with the technical branches.

We act under the following laws:

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- The Watershed Protection Act
 - The Natural Resources Conservation Authority Act
 - The Wildlife Protection Act
 - The Beach Control Act
 - The Town Country and Country Planning Act
 - The Land Development Utilisation Act
 - The Endangered Species (Conservation Protection and Regulation of Trade) Act

What do we do?

We seek to ensure that the laws are complied with by :



- Encouraging compliance
- Prosecuting for non-compliance
- Assisting in investigation of environmental offences
- Assisting or coordinating drafting instructions for legislation, regulations, and standards in accordance with the Legislative Agenda.
- Assisting in the development of policies
- Reviewing applications in conjunction with the technical branches
- Reviewing applications for the discharge of restrictive covenants
- Educational talks on relevant laws and management systems



- Conducting prosecutions on behalf the Agency
- Representing the Agency in civil litigation and administrative appeals

Some of our Hot issues



- Development of user fees for protected areas
- Need for an increase in the numbers of environmental cases going to court
- Seeking Prescriptive Rights for Petitioners
- Need for Policy on Compliance and Prosecution
- Need for initiatives in Private Land Conservation
- Need for environmental awareness by the judiciary and police
- Need for mechanism governing the operation of NEPA

What do we do in-house?

- Provide legal support in the drafting of contracts for employees, contractors and consultants.
- Draft and negotiate leases
- Assist in training of Enforcement Officers
- Ensure that NEPA operates within its legal mandate