

STEVEN A. SAARI

OBJECTIVE **A management position in watershed restoration, partnership and outreach** with an organization working at a community, local or state level.

PROFILE **Twenty-one years of experience** including professional, scientific and managerial positions with organizations involved in government and environmental affairs. A proven ability to manage grants, projects, and staff, and develop, implement, and oversee policy initiatives. Exceptional writing and analytical skills.

MANAGEMENT **Restoration Branch Chief, DOEE (2015-Present)**

- EXPERIENCE**
- Oversees, manages, and directs day-to-day operations of the Restoration Branch in the Watershed Protection Division including annual budgets of over \$13 million.
 - Provides supervision, technical assistance, and direction to staff administering sub-grants, contracts and projects in stream and habitat restoration, stormwater management, environmental education, pollution prevention and trash reduction.
 - Writes and administers federal grants and including EPA Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grant and 319 non-point source pollution grants and their associated local matching funds.
 - Works to protect and improve the health of District waterways through coordination with other DOEE branches, District and federal agencies, and local environmental stakeholders including the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program, and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin.

Potomac Watershed Manager, Potomac River Commission (2002-2006)

- Led and facilitated partnership efforts to create and train citizen watershed organizations in the Potomac Basin including starting the Rock Creek Conservancy.
- Wrote and managed grants to aid watershed organizations in their efforts to protect and restore the Potomac River.
- Developed tools for citizens and watershed organizations including a compendium of low-cost, high-benefit watershed restoration activities.
- Coordinated and led environmental field trips such as the Potomac Sojourn – a week-long canoe trip with an average of 100 participants a year.

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POLICY & SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

Environmental Protection Specialist, DOEE (2006-2015)

- Wrote and implemented watershed implementation plans including the Rock Creek and Anacostia Watershed Implementation Plans, the Anacostia 2032 Plan, and the District's Urban Tree Canopy Plan.
- Developed and coordinated watershed-scale programs to reduce non-point source pollution through technology transfer, environmental education and on the ground restoration efforts including the RiverSmart Homes program.
- Wrote and managed grants for stream and habitat restoration and innovative stormwater practices including the restoration of Watts Branch, the Linnean Park regenerative stream channel installation, RiverSmart Washington, and the Broad Branch stream daylighting.
- Aided in the development of plans and policies and coordinated and facilitated workgroups of agencies and landholders to further D.C. environmental efforts.

Community Watershed Coordinator, EPA Bay Program/CRC (2000-1)

- Coordinated the activities of the Community Watershed and Chesapeake Watershed Commitments Taskforces for the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program.
- Developed community watershed related policy recommendations for the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program.
- Crafted products and tools to establish and support community watershed organizations and the creation of watershed management plans.

Research Assistant, Caretta Research Project (1996)

- Tagged and monitored nesting Loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*).
- Developed and implemented a database for 24 years of research data.
- Oversaw teams of volunteers, taught island natural history, and performed vehicle, island and building maintenance.

Environmental Consultant, United States Olympic Committee (1996)

- Monitored impacts of Olympic events on environmentally sensitive areas.
- Surveyed and protected nest sites of threatened birds and sea turtles.

EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

Instructor/Teaching Assistant, The Pennsylvania State University (1997-1999)

- Taught core biology courses and a senior-level capstone course in field ecology.
- Created and implement exercises demonstrating ecological field techniques.
- Led exercises illustrating human impacts on the environment and discuss ways of making our activities more sustainable.
- Created class and laboratory exercises and evaluated and student progress.
- Facilitated and moderated class discussions.

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Camp Naturalist, YMCA Camp Seymour (1993/1997)

- Taught outdoor and environmental education to elementary school children.
- Developed and implemented daily lesson plans.
- Established and maintained marine invertebrate “touch tanks.”

Educator, Anchorage Community YMCA (1993)

- Developed and implemented daily lesson plans and guided games, activities, and songs.
- Instilled self-confidence and team building through class activities.

EDUCATION

BS, Environmental Science & Geology, **College of William & Mary**, Williamsburg, VA (1992)

MS, Ecology, **Pennsylvania State University**, State College, PA (1999)

Thesis Topic: *The Environmental, Economic & Educational Impacts of the Suburban & University Landscape*

French Language Civilization and Culture, **La Sorbonne**, Paris, France (2002)

ACTIVITIES

Vice President of the Board, Chesapeake Stormwater Network

Climate Ride Fundraiser, Washington Area Bicyclists Association

Stream Steward – Luzon Branch, Rock Creek Conservancy

Community Tree Planting Organizer, Casey Trees

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Microsoft Office Suite
- HTML web design
- Corel Office Suite
- ArcGIS
- Adobe Photoshop and Acrobat
- Microsoft Project

OTHER SKILLS & AWARDS

- French Language Fluency
- Construction Inspection
- Stormwater BMP Professional
- Committee of 100 Vision Award Winner
- DC Government Executive Leadership Program (ongoing)
- Meeting Facilitation
- Stream Restoration Professional
- Cafritz Award Nominee

INTERESTS

Avid runner, cyclist, and hiker. Enjoy photography, backpacking, canoeing, birding, gardening, and generally anything that gets me outside.