

Maryland Federal Facilities Profile

Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)



4700 River Road
Riverdale, Maryland 20737
301-734-7776
Prince George's County
Website: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/>

Administrator: Dr. Michael Watson

Parent Agency: Animal & Plant Inspection Services Headquarters

Department: Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Maryland Employees: 1,124

History & Mission: The foundation for APHIS was built in 1883 when USDA's Commissioner established the Veterinary Division which soon became the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), created to promote livestock disease research, enforce animal import regulations and regulate the interstate movement of animals. Regulatory activities to protect U.S. crops began with the 1912 Plant Quarantine Act and the establishment of the Federal Horticultural Board. In 1947, the BAI became a part of the USDA and, in 1953, the functions of the BAI and the various plant health bureaus became part of USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS). In 1971, the animal and plant regulatory functions were separated from ARS to become an entity known as the Animal and Plant Health Services (APHS) and, in 1972, the meat and poultry inspection divisions of the Consumer and Marketing Service (later known as the Agricultural Marketing Service) were added to APHS (putting the "I" into APHIS).

APHIS is a multi-faceted agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. APHIS aims to protect American animals, plants, and the agricultural industry by offering: protection from invasive non-native plants, animals, insects, and diseases; monitoring and management of existing agricultural pests and diseases; resolution and management of trade issues related to animal or plant health; and prevention or cessation of the inhumane treatment of animals.

Contacts		Business Resources
Office of the Administrator	Dr. Michael Watson, Administrator 202-799-7017	USDA Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP) USDA Mission Area Procurement Representatives Procurement Forecast Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) USDA Vendor Capability Submission Portal APHIS Strategic Plan FY2023-2027
Advisor for State and Stakeholder Relations	Katrina Rudyj 202-799-7029	
Operational Program Units Directory		