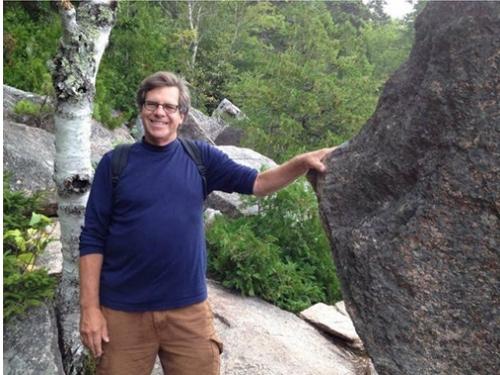


2020 MWMC Carl Weber Award – Dan Boward



Dan's 34-year career with the State of Maryland included positions at Maryland Department of Health, Maryland Department of The Environment, and 25 years at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

During his tenure at DNR, Dan helped develop and refine the primary stream health indicator used in Maryland - the Maryland Biological Stream Survey Benthic Index of Biotic Integrity. Dan trained hundreds of professionals in MBSS benthic macroinvertebrate sampling protocols and also developed and led the benthic macroinvertebrate sampling certification program used by DNR through the MBSS. Dan was the lead author and editor of the award winning 1999 book "From the Mountain to the Sea – The State of Maryland's Freshwater Streams." In 2000, he started, led, and organized DNR's popular Stream Waders volunteer monitoring program. This group of volunteers has led to the sampling of 8,014 sites, involved 2,841 citizen volunteers in monitoring the biological health of the state's streams, and led to countless teaching moments with landowners and other members of the community.

Dan took over as MWMC executive secretary in 2006. Since that time, due in large part to Dan's leadership and dedication, membership and relevance of the MWMC reached new heights, and the annual conference attendance exceeded 600 individuals as a state-wide highlight of the winter season.

Dan's exemplary contributions during his 15 year tenure as the MWMC executive secretary probably qualify him as influencing water monitoring communication, collaboration, and cooperation more than anyone else in Maryland during that period. He was the driving force behind much of the MWMC and its accomplishments - such as the board meetings, conference, and annual

monitoring roundtable.

DNR's Maryland Stream Waders volunteer Program (that Dan initiated and coordinated) provided a previously unprecedented opportunity for volunteers to provide samples for processing by the DNR's benthic laboratory and contribute to assessments of stream health and condition.

Dan was a seminal member of the Maryland Biological Stream Survey. Dan led the benthic macroinvertebrate sampling and assessment aspects of the MBSS. He also had the lead for training and certification in MBSS benthic macroinvertebrate sampling protocols.

Dan took the lead on recent updates to the DNR's Stream Health website. This website is the primary source for Marylanders to access MBSS and Stream Waders data through an interactive map.

Dan authored or co-authored many manuals, reports, fact sheets, scientific papers, and other publications on stream assessment, benthic macroinvertebrates, laboratory and field sampling protocols to help advance stream monitoring and understanding of stream ecology. He had the authorship and editorial lead on the award winning report: "From the Mountain to the Sea – The State of Maryland's Freshwater Streams." This report was the first public-focused report on the results of the Maryland Biological Stream Survey.

Dan's excellent communication skills, amiable demeanor, attention to detail, and love of his work made him amazingly successful at all he took on in water monitoring. That included his strong desire to continually facilitate and find new ways to improve collaboration, communication, and coordination among those involved with water monitoring in Maryland and beyond.