

Nancy J. Bechtol

As Director of Smithsonian Facilities (SF) at the Smithsonian Institution, she manages all facilities planning, design, construction, engineering and facilities operations and maintenance needs within the nineteen museums, nine research centers and the National Zoo, largely in Washington, DC, New York, and Panama. The Smithsonian's worldwide portfolio is over 12 million square feet with over 600 buildings and 23,000 acres of land and is maintained utilizing an in-house workforce of over 1000 FTE and a annual budget of over \$400 million. She oversees the Capital, Maintenance and Operations programs for all Smithsonian facilities worldwide. Led the planning, design and construction office which built the Smithsonian's newest museum, the National Museum of African American History and Culture and currently leads this office in the revitalization of the National Air and Space Museum on the National Mall.



She additionally oversees the Office of Safety, Health and Environmental Management, Smithsonian Gardens, and Office of Emergency Management. Ms. Bechtol has managed facilities-related emergencies at Smithsonian (metro-DC/NY) for 29 years, including the 2006 flood along Constitution Ave; the aftermath of the 2011 earthquake, and too many snow/ice storms to count. She is currently on the coordination group leading the Smithsonian's response to the COVID-19 crisis. She serves as the Smithsonian's Senior Sustainability and Climate Change Adaptation Officer.

Previously, she was Horticultural Manager for the 30,000 acre Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission in Montgomery County, Maryland, managing the horticultural program in 300 parks county-wide, and worked as Integrated Pest Manager at Longwood Gardens, developing the first public-garden IPM program. She has worked in several public gardens in her career to include Ladew Topiary Gardens, Brookside Gardens in Maryland and the U. S. National Arboretum. Ms. Bechtol graduated from University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture. She received her Master of Science from University of Delaware through the Longwood Program in Public Garden Administration. She is a Certified Facility Manager through International Facility Management Association (2007).