What Can I Do With A Degree In Environmental Science?

Soil Science
- Areas
  - Soil and Water Conservation
  - Land Use Planning
  - Waste Disposal
- Environmental Compliance
- Reclamation of Contaminated Lands
- Landfill Operation and Monitoring
- Agrichemical Management
- Fertilizer Technology
- Agricultural Production
- Research
- Education

Employers
- Government agencies
- Environmental research laboratories
- Agricultural or environmental consultant firms
- Privately owned farms and ranches
- Universities

Strategies
- Maintain knowledge of current environmental issues including policy, conservation, and industry trends.
- Develop acute observational skills. Stay current on technology used in natural resource management including software, geographical information systems, and global positioning systems. Seek related experience through co-ops, internships, or part-time jobs in area of interest. Gain extensive laboratory and research experience to prepare for research positions.
- Participate in related clubs, organizations, and soil judging teams to build contacts and cultivate academic interests. Learn about certification programs offered by the Soil Science Society of America including soil science and...
agronomy. Become familiar with the federal job application procedure for government employment. Obtain Ph.D. for optimal research and university teaching careers.

**Solid Waste Management**
Areas
Chemistry
Engineering
Hydrology
Logistics
Planning
Recycling
Transportation
Compliance

**Employers**
Federal, state, and local government
Private waste management firms
Consulting firms
Nonprofit organizations

**Strategies**
- Develop strong communication skills, both written and oral. Develop decision-making and problem-solving skills, diplomacy, and the ability to work under pressure. Gain familiarity with current technologies, regulations, and statutes.
- Join community groups or service organizations that focus on environmental awareness; attend public meetings about waste management. Become flexible and learn to look at issues from various perspectives.

**Hazardous Waste Management**
Areas
Hydrogeology
Quality Control
Risk Assessment

**Environmental Engineering**
Public and Environmental Health
Industrial Hygiene
Law
Biology
Chemistry
Geology
Chemical Engineering
Planning
Compliance

**Employers**
Federal, state, and local government
Private companies that generate hazardous waste in production
Hazardous waste management firms
Consulting firms
Nonprofit organizations

**Strategies**
- Consider a double major in hard science or engineering. Attend public meetings on hazardous waste issues. Gain laboratory experience and computer expertise.
- Complete an internship in a government office or regulatory agency. Gain experience with technical writing. Get involved with local chapters of citizen watch groups. Become familiar with Superfund and its activities.

**Air Quality Management**
Areas
Engineering
Planning
Analytical Chemistry
Environmental Quality Analysis
Meteorology
Risk Assessment
Safety and Health Management
Toxicology
Project Development
Compliance

Employers
Federal, state, and local government
Private industry
Consulting firms
Nonprofit organizations

Strategies
- Stay up-to-date with federal regulations and both industry and regional standards. Additional training in economics and policy is desirable. Develop strong oral communication and technical writing skills. Learn to work well under pressure and develop negotiation skills. Seek volunteer or paid positions within area environmental groups.

Water Quality Management
Areas
Aquatic Ecology
Aquatic Toxicology
Law
Biology
Civil/Environmental Engineering
Hydrogeology and Hydrology
Drinking Water Supply and Treatment
Waste Water Treatment
Groundwater Protection
Surface Water Management
Estuary Management
Wetlands Protection
Compliance
Industrial Engineering

Corporations
Consulting firms
Nonprofit organizations
Treatment plants

Strategies
- Develop a strong chemistry background by taking additional courses. Obtain laboratory skills by assisting faculty with research projects. Maintain current knowledge of industry trends and regulations. Develop interpersonal, oral communication, and technical writing skills. Seek an advanced degree in policy for increased marketability. Learn about certification programs offered by the American Institute of Hydrology. Learn to use the tools and software associated with watershed modeling.

Land & Water Conservation
Areas
Biology
Ecology
Planning
Geographic Information Systems
Preserve Management
Law
Natural Resource Management
Soil Conservation
Land Acquisition

Employers
Federal, state, and local government
Indian nations
Utilities and timber companies
Consulting firms
Nonprofit organizations
Land trust organizations such as The Nature Conservancy or Trust for Public Land
Strategies
- Gain a solid background in the basic sciences while obtaining a broad-based education. Obtain legal, real estate, and financial skills through coursework, internships or part-time jobs. Volunteer through the Student Conservation Association (SCA) and hold an office. Keep up with new funding sources. Consider law school for careers as counsel to environmental organizations.

Fishery & Wildlife Management
Areas
Aquaculture
Botany
Data Management
Biology
Hatchery Management
Marine Biology
Ecology
Education
Research
Planning

Employers
Federal, state, and local government
Marine sport fisheries
Utility companies
Developers
Timber companies
Wildlife ranges
Scientific foundations
Zoological parks
Hunting and fishing clubs
Consulting firms
Nonprofit organizations

Strategies
- Develop a broad scientific education. Obtain skills in areas such as planning, administration, communications, and negotiation through coursework, internships, or part-time jobs. Get experience and skills in computers, statistics and computer modeling. Join the Peace Corps as a segue way into federal government positions. Learn about the federal job application process.

Parks & Outdoor Recreation
Areas
Administration and Management
Law Enforcement
Recreation Planning
Natural Resource Management
Research
Site Operations and Maintenance
Ecotourism
Direct Mail Merchandising

Employees
National Park Service
Federal agencies
State, county or city parks
Resorts
Marinas
Privately owned facilities
Nonprofit organizations

Strategies
- Develop a broad-based education that will develop both technical and interpersonal skills. Gain expertise in additional areas such as communications, writing, fundraising, negotiation, and computer applications. Obtain working knowledge of a foreign language such as Spanish. Learn to work well with and communicate with all types of people. Participate in travel and recreation programs.
Join related organizations and seek leadership roles to gain experience planning trips and other programs.

**Forestry**
- Areas
  - Consulting
  - Entomology
  - Hydrology
  - Natural Resource Management
  - Planning
  - Research
  - International Forestry
  - Urban Forestry

**Employers**
- Federal, state, and local government
- Consulting firms
- Timber companies
- Nonprofit organizations

**Strategies**
- Obtain skills with computers, statistics, and accounting through coursework, internships or part-time jobs. Develop good communication and public relations skills. Get a minor or double major in a technical area (soil science, wildlife or surveying) or in an arts and science area (business, economics, political science or computer science).

**Environmental Education & Communication**
- Areas
  - Teaching
  - Journalism
  - Tourism
  - Law Regulation
  - Compliance
  - Political Action/Lobbying

**Employers**
- Federal, state, and local government
- Public and private elementary, middle, and high schools
- Two-year community colleges
- Four-year institutions
- Corporations
- Consulting firms
- Media
- Nonprofit organizations
- Political Action Committees

**Strategies**
- Master public speaking skills. Learn certification/licensure requirements for teaching public K-12 schools. Develop creative hands-on strategies for teaching/learning. Publish articles in newsletters or newspapers. Learn environmental laws and regulations. Join professional associations and environmental groups as ways to network. Become active in environmental political organizations.

**Planning**
- Areas
  - Air Quality
  - Aviation
  - Building/Zoning
  - Land-Use
  - Consulting
  - Recreation
  - Transportation
  - Water Resources

**Employers**
- Federal, state, regional, and local government
- Corporations
- Consulting firms
- Banks
- Real estate development companies
Law firms
Architectural firms
Market research companies
Colleges and universities
Nonprofit groups

Strategies
 Get on planning boards, commissions, and committees. Have a planning specialty (transportation, water resources, air quality, etc.). Master communication, mediation and writing skills. Network in the community and get to know “who’s who” in your specialty area. Develop a strong scientific or technical background. Diversify your knowledge base. For example, in areas of law, economics, politics, historical preservation, or architecture.

Environmental Law
Areas
Environmental Law

Employers
Private firms
Corporations
Federal and State government agencies such as Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Justice and Attorney General Office
Nonprofit organizations such as Green Action and Natural Resources Defense Council

Strategies
 Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT. Build strong recommendations from faculty. Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm. Develop strong written and oral communication skills. Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

General Information
 Environmental studies and environmental science differ from each other in the amount of science course work needed.
 Environmental studies provide a broad base of hard sciences as well as liberal arts or social science coursework.
 Environmental science incorporates hard sciences and environmental sciences.
 Choice depends upon career focus, for example, administration or policy-making versus technical areas or research.
 Combine liberal arts skills with analytical skills to increase employability. Formally, obtain a double major in these areas or minor in one of these areas. Informally, obtain these skills through internships, co-ops, volunteer work, summer jobs or independent research projects.
 Be familiar with current environmental laws and regulations. Stay up-to-date with changing environmental legislation.
 Join related professional associations; read related literature and journals to keep up with new developments.
 Attend seminars, conferences and workshops sponsored by professional associations or public interest groups.
 Network and get to know people who are working in area of interest.
 Research agencies/organizations of interest before applying for a position.
 Learn local, state and federal government job application procedures.
 Obtain graduate degree for job security/advancement.

Prepared by the Career Planning staff of Career Services at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
Careers Exploration

CA Environmental Education Resource Guide
http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/eh/

Bay Area Progressive Directory
www.bapd.org/keclgy-1.html

California Coastal Commission’s Marine, Coastal and Watershed Resource Directory
www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/directory/resdirectory/rdindex.html

CNR Student Resource Center
https://career.berkeley.edu/NatRes/NatRes.stm

Environmental Council
www.cnr.berkeley.edu/pec

GreenBiz
www.greenbiz.com/index.cfm

National Environmental Directory
http://environmentaldirectory.net/

Office of Environmental Health and Safety Student Educational Enhancement Program
www.ehs.berkeley.edu

Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
www.environment.yale.edu/current/Career-Development/

UC Berkeley Career Center
https://career.berkeley.edu/Environment/Environment.stm

Guides for Specific Careers
http://jobstar.org/tools/career/spec-car.php#Ecology

Occupational Outlook Handbook
http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos050.htm

O’Net-
http://online.onetcenter.org/find/stem?t=9&g=Go

Environmental Careers Organization - Canada
http://www.eco.ca/Portal/public_Student.aspx

Princeton Review - A Day In The Life

Career Zone
http://www.nycareerzone.org/cz/search.jsp?query=
Scroll down to Environmental...

College Board
Click on Environment on the Career Categories column

Commission for Environmental Cooperation
http://www.cec.org/home/index.cfm?varlan=english

The Environmental Network
http://environmentalnetwork.com/

Environmental Careers Guide
http://www.khake.com/page46.html

Exploring Majors in Environmental Science

University of Delaware
http://www.udel.edu/CSC/ensc.html

McGill University

Rutgers University
http://careerservices.rutgers.edu/mh/environmental_sciences.shtml
Job Postings
SMC Student Job Search - www.stmarys-ca.edu/studentjobs

Environmental Careers.com
http://environmentalcareer.com/

National Wildlife Federation
www.nwf.org/careergateway/index.cfm

Environ Corporation
www.environcorp.com/careers/

Jones & Stokes -
www.jonesandstokes.com/careers/careers.htm

Tetra Tech, San Francisco -
www.tetratech.com (Click on Careers)

Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) -
www.eco.org/

Environmental Protection Agency
http://www.epa.gov/careers/

Environmental Protection Agency Region 9, San Francisco
http://www.epa.gov/region09/careers/

CA Public Utilities Commission
http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/jobs/

US Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region

CA Department of Fish and Game -
http://www.dfg.ca.gov/jobs/

California Environmental Protection Agencies -
www.calepa.ca.gov/employment

CA Air Resources Board -
http://www.arb.ca.gov/personnel/jobs/examvac.htm#vacancyannouncements

California State Parks
http://parks.ca.gov/?page_id=736

County of Sonoma - Park ranger -
http://www.sonoma-county.org/hr/index.htm

San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
http://www.fws.gov/refuges/about/careers.html

Student Conservation Association -Stipend-
http://www.thesca.org/employment

Wilderness Inquiry Outdoor/Therapeutic Recreation Internships
http://www.wildernessinquiry.org/get_involved/workforwi.php

Yosemite National Park
http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/jobs.htm

U.S. Geological Survey Jobs, Internships, & Volunteer Opportunities-
http://www.usgs.gov/ohr/

U.S. Department of Energy - Jobs & Internships
http://www.energy.gov/about/employment.htm

Environmental Career Opportunities
www.ecojobs.com/

Nature Conservatory
http://www.nature.org/careers
Click on “How to Apply/View Positions”
Professional Associations

Association of Environmental Professionals San Francisco Bay - Active local professional group which welcomes students to their monthly meetings. For information about monthly meetings, call (415) 487-6424.

Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education
www.aeeoe.org/

California Association of Environmental Professionals
http://www.califaep.org/

Society for Conservation Biology
http://conbio.net/

Organization of Biological Field Stations
www.obfs.org/

Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors
http://www.aeesp.org/

North American Association for Environmental Education
www.eelink.net/pages/EE-Link+Introduction