



WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN ... ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:

Conduct research or perform investigation for the purpose of identifying, abating, or eliminating sources of pollutants or hazards that affect either the environment or the health of the population. Utilizing knowledge of various scientific disciplines may collect, synthesize, study, report, and take action based on data derived from measurements or observations of air, food, soil, and water.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS:

[Extensive Job Preparation Needed]

A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required. However, many employers also require graduate school. For example, they may require a master's degree, and some require a Ph.D., M.D., or J.D. (law degree).

EMPLOYERS & SUGGESTED STRATEGY:

Please ask your Career Advisor (CDF) for identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Hazardous & Solid Waste Management: Consulting firms - Federal, state, and local government - Waste management firms - Nonprofit organizations - Private companies that generate waste in production

Suggested Strategy: Consider a double major in a hard science or engineering. Attend public meetings on this issue. Get laboratory experience. Gain computer expertise. Work in government office or regulatory agency. Get experience with technical writing. Get involved with local chapters of citizen watch groups. Become familiar with Superfund and its activities.

Air & Water Quality Management: Consulting firms - Corporations - Federal, state, local government - Nonprofit organizations

Suggested Strategy: Develop skills in the areas of engineering, chemistry or laboratory work. Work at state and local agencies as a way to start an air or water quality career. Become familiar with high-tech tools and develop computer skills.

Land & Water Conservation: Consulting firms - Federal, state, and local government - Indian nations - Land trust organizations such as The Nature Conservancy or Trust for Public Land - Nonprofit organizations - Utilities and timber companies

Suggested Strategy: Get 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: Consulting firms - Developers – Federal, state, and local government - Marine sport fisheries - Nonprofit organizations - Scientific foundations - Timber companies - Utility companies - Wildlife ranges - Zoological parks

Suggested Strategy: Get 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. Get on government agencies' job registers.

Parks & Outdoor Recreation: Federal agencies - Marinas - National Park Service - Nonprofit organizations - Privately owned facilities - Resorts - State, county or city parks

Suggested Strategy: Obtain a broad-based education and develop both technical and interpersonal skills. Gain expertise in additional areas such as communications, writing, fund-raising, negotiation, and computer applications. Obtain working knowledge of a foreign language such as Spanish.

STATE & NATIONAL WAGES:

	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%
New Mexico	\$ 29,400	\$ 37,500	\$ 45,900	\$ 58,700	\$ 81,300
United States	\$ 31,000	\$ 38,500	\$ 50,100	\$ 66,100	\$ 84,600

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

 <http://online.onetcenter.org>



<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>