GET THE JOB Work to Save the Environment

Whether you're signing up for college classes or dreaming of entering a field that involves nature, numerous positions make you an advocate for protecting the environment.

In addition to providing yourself with a sense of accomplishment, eco-friendly occupations can also set you up for a life of financial reward.

Check out a few of the most in-demand positions in the industry, their expected growth and average salary, as reported by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS AND SPECIALISTS

If solving problems that the Earth faces piques your interest, becoming an environmental scientist may be your calling.

Experts are tasked with finding solutions to issues involving our ecosystem, monitoring pollution and studying wildlife to encourage positive outcomes. In most cases, the position requires a



bachelor's degree and is available in state and local governments and private sectors.

When pursuing a degree in the field, you should be prepared to explore biology, geography, physics, and a firm grasp of scientific literature.

CONSERVATION SCIENTISTS

The primary responsibilities of conservation scientists include managing the overall land quality of forests, parks, rangelands and other natural

resources.

Specific tasks often include negotiating terms for landuse contracts, monitoring forest-cleared lands, evaluating soil data, and assessing trees' damage. Professionals are typically required to gain a bachelor's degree before working on federal, state or local land.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS

Specialists in this occupation are often involved in improving recycling, waste disposal, impacting public health and managing pollution trends. Experts must know about analyzing scientific data, performing quality checks and strategizing campaigns that positively affect the environment. Other areas of responsibility often include understanding global warming, automotive emissions and ozone depletion.

Before becoming an environmental engineer, one must obtain a bachelor's degree. The BLS states the employers also value practical experience, so consider gaining knowledge through apprenticeships, volunteering or optional courses.

GEOSCIENTIST

Are you passionate about learning the origins of the Earth? A geoscientist career means studying the physical aspects of the planet, like its composition, structure, and processes. The industry encourages experts to learn more about its past, present and future.

The geoscientist field is broad and requires numerous professionals in varying roles who operate together. Here are some examples of specialists within the industry, as reported by the BLS.

• Geologists study the materials, processes and history of the Earth.

• Geochemists uncover the composition of elements found in groundwater by using physical and organic chemistry.

• Paleontologists analyze fossils found in geological formations to learn more about the evolution of plant and animal life.

• Seismologists study earthquakes and related occurrences like tsunamis to understand natural phenomena.

• Geophysicists use the principles of physics to discover information regarding the Earth's surface and interior.

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HOT JOB PROFILE

AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENTISTS

Number of jobs in 2019: 34,800

Job outlook, 2019-29: 6% (Faster than average)

Employment change, 2019-29: 2,000

The role: Agricultural and food scientists research ways to improve the efficiency and safety of agricultural establishments and products.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Education required: Agricultural and food scientists need at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited postsecondary institution, although many get advanced degrees.

Job outlook: Employment of agricultural and food scientists is projected to grow as research into agricultural production methods and techniques continues.

AD SPACE