

Earth Day 2012



Career Profile

Name: Megan A. Snyder
Job Title: Chemist 2
Location: Bureau of Laboratories
Years with DEP: 3½

What kinds of activities do you perform on a daily basis?

The best part about working in the organics section is the variety of tasks. One day I setup, extract and concentrate samples. The next day I prepare the instrument for analysis and make a calibration curve. After analysis, I analyze the data.

What is your educational background?

I have a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry with a concentration in forensic science.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

I am still developing my instrument troubleshooting skills. When a problem occurs during sample analysis, it is challenging to determine and resolve the issue.

What got you interested in working in an environmental field?

I always enjoyed spending time outdoors and seeing the diversity of nature. I enjoyed chemistry and biology classes in high school so I decided to pursue a degree in the sciences.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

Knowing that the results I report are used to monitor the condition of the environment and ultimately the health of the community.

What advice do you have for someone thinking about a career in environmental science?

Definitely work hard in college and apply for an internship.