



CAREER AND EDUCATION OPTIONS

CLARIFICATION

- If you determine that there is no evidence of pollution in one of the categories, it is acceptable to deem the river safe from pollutants
- Indicate data is inconclusive/no evidence of pollutant

EXAMPLES OF JOBS

- Environmental/Chemical/Pollution Engineer
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Scientist
- Environmental Activist/Lobbyist
- Microbiologist/toxicologist
- Ecologist
- Agricultural Agent
- Oceanographer/Marine Biologist
- Zoologist
- Environmental Lawyer
- Lab Technician
- Educator/Professor
- Research Scientist
- Soil Scientist/Geologist
- Naturalist/Ranger
- Farmer/Rancher
- Wildlife Manager
- Meteorologist
- Biologist
- And more!

DISCUSSION

What career paths are you interested in?



DIFFERENT SECTORS

Non-profit

- Organization dedicated to furthering a certain cause or advocating a viewpoint
- International, national, regional, or local

Private

- Focus on solutions for client or company
- Private industry/manufacturing or consulting
- Private green energy companies

Public

- Various duties to work in the public's interest
- Regulation enforcement
- Federal, state, regional, county, local

CONS OF EACH SECTOR

Non-profit

- Limited funding
- Lower pay compared to private and public jobs
- Lower job security

Private

- Competitive and fast-paced
- Instability
- Could be employed at a harmful company

Public

- Hard to secure a job at first
- Often slow progress

PROS OF EACH SECTOR

Non-profit

- Freedom and flexibility
- Focus on your passion

Private

- Higher paying
- Can change things from the top
- Opportunity for growth and advancement

Public

- Good Benefits
- High job security
- Work your way up

OTHER CAREER PATHS

- Academia
 - Professors, Authors, Teachers
- Independent Work/Freelance
 - Consulting
- Media
 - Photography, Environmental Journalism, Film
- Environmental Law
- Much More!

CAREER RESEARCH TIPS

- Request Informational Interviews
 - Seek advice from a mentor
- Seek internships
- Career Services at your school
 - Take advantage while you can!
- Internet search
 - Bookmark job boards and check daily to weekly
- Research organization/company before any interview

QUESTIONS BEFORE WE MOVE ON?



EDUCATION



FURTHER EDUCATION OPTIONS

- Colleges (2-4 years)
 - Near-by, community, public and private
- Certifications
 - Green Infrastructure, GIS, Education, Sustainability, and more!
 - Online, local colleges/universities
- Online courses
- Graduate School

COLLEGE MAJORS

- Environmental Science
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Studies
- Biology
- Geology/Soil Sciences
- Geography
- Botany/Forestry
- Ecology
- Marine Biology/Oceanography
- Natural Resources Management/Policy
- Environmental Education

SNAPSHOT OF COLLEGES NEARBY

Temple University

BS Sciences and Engineering

BA Environmental Studies

GIS Certificate

Environmental Professional Training
Certificate

Montgomery County Community College

GIS Certificate of completion

Environmental Studies

Penn State University

Penn State Extension

BS Sciences and Engineering

BA Environmental studies

BS Agricultural Sciences

GIS coursework

Ursinus College

BA Environmental Studies

BS Biology

Rutgers

Rutgers Extension

BS Environmental Sciences and
Engineering

BS Agriculture and Food Systems

BS Animal Sciences

BA Environmental Planning/Policy

BS Marine Sciences

University of Pittsburgh

BA Environmental Studies

BA Urban Studies

INTERNSHIPS



INTERNSHIP BENEFITS

- Looks great on a resume!
 - Resume builder
- Learning experience
- Networking
- Pay possible
- Learn what you like and don't like about positions

WHERE TO FIND INTERNSHIPS?

- Organization's website
- Colleges and Universities
 - Postings on websites
 - Career Fairs
- Other websites and Job Boards
 - LinkedIn
 - Handshake
 - Internships.com

AMERICORPS





AMERICORPS

NCCC

National Civilian Community Corps

10 month program

Direct Service

18-26 Year olds

Living at project site

Living and working with a small team

Assigned to different projects to help

Most intense experience

State/National

10 month program

Direct and Indirect Service

Designed to engage members to complete unmet community needs

Focuses on health, education, public safety, and environment

VISTA

10 month program

Indirect Service

Working with an organization to build up an organizations capacity to deliver direct service

Capacity Building

BENEFITS AMERICORPS

- Living stipend
- Health care
- Segel Award about \$6,000
- Valuable career and life experience
- Non-competitive Eligibility

NJ WATERSHED AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

- College degree required
- 10-month state program
- Field work, community organization, education, restoration projects
- Travel throughout NJ, learn, gain professional skills
- Great transition opportunity



SRG VISTA PROGRAM

- The VISTA will support SRG's work in the five counties while also serving needs concerning food insecurity, health, and youth unemployment across the Appalachian Region in Pennsylvania.
- Other projects include expansion of the Schuylkill River Trail and the coordination of volunteer events—ex. trail cleanups, mulching events, and weeding events for the Pollinator and Rain Gardens.
- Full-time, one year service period



**SCHUYLKILL RIVER
GREENWAYS**

OTHER AMERICORPS PROGRAMS

- Anti-Hunger Corps
- Habitat for Humanity
- Individual schools with VISTA programs
- FEMA
- Traditional Corps (NCCC)

HOW TO APPLY?

- Visit [https://nationalservice.gov/programs/american-corps/join-american-corps](https://nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/join-american-corps)
- Select criteria
- Search through listings
- Click Apply!

To search for programs, you may use either the Quick Search or Advanced Search option.

Quick Search
To search for programs by type and/or location, or to find a specific program name, please use the

Program Type :

State :

Program Name :

Include programs not currently accepting a

Search

Advanced Search
You may select any of the following criteria to narrow your program search.

AmeriCorps Program Type ?
Do you already know the name of the project where you would like to serve?

AmeriCorps NCCC
 AmeriCorps NCCC Team Leaders
 AmeriCorps State / National
 AmeriCorps VISTA
 AmeriCorps VISTA Leaders

Service Terms
Are you looking to serve full time, part time, or just over the summer?

Full Time
 Part Time
 Summer

Education Level ?
A few of our projects require a certain level of education in order to serve. What is your highest level of education completed?

Choose Where to Serve:

State
ALABAMA
ALASKA
AMERICAN SAMOA
ARIZONA

Metro Areas
Atlanta
Boston
Chicago
Cleveland/ Akron

Service Areas ?
Please select one (or more) areas of service that you'd be interested in:

Community and Economic Development
 Community Outreach
 Children/Youth
 Disaster Relief
 Education
 Entrepreneur/Business
 Elder Care
 Ex-Offender Reentry
 Environment
 Health
 Hunger
 Hurricane Katrina

Languages
Do you speak any languages that might be required for a service project?

Arabic
 American Sign Language
 Chinese
 Creole
 English
 French
 German
 Greek
 Hmong
 Italian
 Japanese
 Korean
 Polish

Skills ?
Do you have any specialized skills that you would like to use during your service?

Counseling
 Architectural Planning
 Business/Entrepreneur
 Communications
 Community Organization
 Computers/Technology
 Conflict Resolution
 Education
 Fine Arts/Crafts
 First Aid
 Fund raising/Grant Writing
 Law

VOLUNTEERING



WHY VOLUNTEERING

- Looks great on a resume
- Networking opportunity
- Find out what you like to do/don't like to do

WHERE CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?

- Local nonprofits, like SRG!
 - Trail maintenance, water quality monitoring, special events, and more!
- Urban farms and gardens (Greensgrow Farms)
- Nature Centers (Pennsylvania Horticulture Society)
- Stream and park clean ups, tree plantings, garden planting, trail maintenance, invasive species removal
- Citizen Science Projects
- Check AmeriCorps events if you live in or want to volunteer in NJ
- Regular volunteering or single events

OTHER TIPS

- Always be professional
- Network
 - Join LinkedIn, other groups online, email professionals
 - Informational interviews!
- Be consistent and persistent

DIANA'S CAREER PATH

- Graduated 2019 from Boston University
 - B.A. Environmental Analysis and Policy
- 2 internships as a student
- 3 jobs in between
- Educator with Riverbend Environmental Education Center
- AmeriCorps NJ Watershed Ambassador 2019-2020
- Started with SRG as part time Education Coordinator Sept. 2020
- Started with NJDEP as part time

DIANA'S ADVICE

- Take every opportunity given that interests you
- Apply even if you don't think you are qualified
- If you are unsure what to study in college, consider other options
 - Gap year
 - AmeriCorps
 - Community College
 - Universities are expensive!

SARAH'S CAREER PATH

- Graduated 2015 from Albright College
 - B.A. Environmental Studies and Spanish
- 2 internships after graduation, one paid one unpaid
- Worked 3 part-time jobs after graduation
- My connection from my volunteer internship recommended me to SRG
- Started with SRG as part time Education Coordinator April 2016
- Full time Education Coordinator April 2017-August 2019
- Now Education Director at SRG, serving on non-profit boards and work groups/committees

SARAH'S ADVICE

- Take every opportunity you can, but don't give up on your goals!
- Don't be afraid to network/ ask for help with recommendations
- Be open to learning and take initiative
- Whatever role you are in, be the best at it!

QUESTIONS?



ASSIGNMENT

- Informational Interview!!
- Follow the pdf information
- Start with any family member/friend (career doesn't matter)
- Write questions you want to ask
- Schedule time to talk
- 1 page or less description of their answers, the experience, and what you learned.

NEXT SESSION: MAPPING, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3RD AT 6:00PM