



Getting into.....environmental work

Environmental work appeals to many graduates. However, entry into certain parts of this sector remains very competitive due to increasing numbers of graduates emerging from the wide range of environmentally related courses that are now available. Coupled with the fact that there are very few large environmental graduate recruiters and that the sector is dominated by small to medium sized enterprises (employing less than 250 people) there is often a shortfall in job vacancies, especially in conservation work. According to a recent ENDS Salaries and Careers Survey (2006) www.endsdirectory.com there has also been criticism from employers in the environmental sector that generalist environmental degree courses do little to prepare graduates for the realities of the workplace. Therefore, graduates will need to differentiate themselves preferably by a placement year in industry or voluntary work experience. There are some areas of environmental work that are growing such as waste management, transport planning and corporate social responsibility, however, conservation work remains very competitive to enter without relevant and credible qualifications and experience. Generally speaking those working in environmental consultancies tend to earn higher salaries than those working for public sector or voluntary organisations; however, there are exceptions to this as planning officers in the public sector might be on a much higher salary than their equivalents in consultancy. Higher salaries can usually be achieved later in your career by gaining specialist knowledge and expertise and taking on a more consultative role or becoming a senior project manager.

What is environmental work?

There is no single environmental profession and so you need to be clear about what you mean by 'environmental work'. Environmental work encompasses a wide range of jobs in industry, local and national government and voluntary organisations. Broadly speaking, the sector can be broken down into the following areas:

Agriculture
Forestry
Landscape
Resource management – waste, water, energy, air quality
Environmental management / auditing / assessment
Environmental engineering and eco-design

Horticulture
Conservation
Pollution prevention
Environmental health
Town planning
Transport

What jobs are available?

Key roles for graduates include the following:

Agricultural Consultant / Adviser
Arboriculturist
Environmental Auditor
Environmental Consultant
Environmental Health Officer
Estate Manager / Land Agent
Farm Manager
Forest Manager / Forester
Heritage Manager
Horticulturist, Commercial
Landscape Architect / Designer

Animal Nutritionist
Ecologist
Energy Conservation Officer
Environmental Engineer
Environmental Manager
Fish Farm Manager
Field Trials Officer
Health and Safety Adviser
Horticulturist, Amenity
Horticultural Consultant
Nature Conservation Officer

Marine Scientist
Recycling Officer
Soil Scientist
Tourism Officer
Transportation Planner
Water Quality Scientist
Water Operations Manager
Biological Field Surveyor
Conservation Adviser
Countryside Manager
Agricultural Surveyor
Agriculture Research Assistant
Environmental Education Officer
Fisheries officer
Historic Buildings Inspector
Outdoor Pursuits Manager
Scientific Laboratory Technician
Research Scientist (Life Science)
Urban General Practice Surveyor
Timber Merchant

Plant Breeder / Geneticist
Rural Practice Surveyor
Sustainable Development Adviser
Town Planner
Waste Management Officer
Water Conservation Officer
etc!

Occupational profiles are available for most of the above careers on www.prospects.ac.uk so if you want to find out more about what any of these jobs entail, entry requirements and useful contact addresses then look up the relevant profile by clicking on 'Jobs and Work' and then 'Explore types of Jobs'. Also refer to pages 15-18 of this leaflet for more details.

Indirect environmental careers include the following:

There are also a number of roles which have an environmental element to them, as follows:

- ❖ Environmental research and development, modelling, survey, measuring and monitoring e.g GIS mapping
- ❖ Tourism and recreation e.g eco-tourism, nature trails, outdoor recreation
- ❖ Environmental education and training, campaigning, communication and journalism
- ❖ Environmental youth and community work
- ❖ Policy development e.g sustainable development
- ❖ Financial management e.g ethical investments, insurance
- ❖ Environmental law, development control and regulation

Who employs environmentalists?

The following are typical employers:

- ❖ Universities and Research Institutes
- ❖ Government and their Conservation Agencies e.g DEFRA, Environment Agency, National Park Authorities etc
- ❖ Non-Government Organisations e.g RSPB, World Wildlife Fund, Friends of the Earth etc
- ❖ Consultancy (multi-disciplinary or specialist environmental consultancies)
- ❖ Industry e.g Utilities Companies, MoD, manufacturing etc

Skills required

Variable, but common ones include scientific research, field survey techniques, data gathering, report writing and the ability to communicate scientific data to non-technical people. Transferable skills such as team work, communication, IT, project management, initiative and time management are also useful. Experience such as organising events, guided walks, supervising or recruiting volunteers, media experience (e.g writing press releases or creating websites) are also valued.

Practical skills e.g health and safety, first aid, minibus or chainsaw licence can be an advantage especially for practical conservation positions.

Latest trends in environmental work

The Good News

- ❖ Environmentalists are now taken seriously – it's now possible to become a chartered professional (CEnv – Chartered Environmentalist)
- ❖ Environmental protection and resource efficiency is now a top priority.
- ❖ Number of environmental jobs is increasing (in certain sectors).
- ❖ Increasing amount of environmental qualifications / training available.
- ❖ Can make a decent living.
- ❖ Employers are interested in the skills, knowledge and attitudes that come with being an environmentalist.

The Not So Good News

- ❖ There are still fewer environmental jobs than people wanting them.
- ❖ Pay isn't always great.
- ❖ Value of environmental qualifications isn't always understood by employers.
- ❖ Sector dominated by SME's therefore job search needs to be very proactive and speculative approaches are often required.
- ❖ Few large recruiters or graduate training programmes.
- ❖ Sector experience / volunteer work important.
- ❖ Relevant MSc course may be necessary, with or without a science based degree.

Which sector is for me?

Broadly speaking the environmental sector can be split into 3, and as with other occupations there are advantages and disadvantages to each of them, which may be a major or a minor factor in deciding which route to take:

1) Public sector (Universities, local government, government agencies etc)

The public sector usually offers varied work, good terms and conditions and regular hours. However, red tape and limited resources can be off-putting for some. Pay is often lower, until senior positions are reached, in comparison with the private sector.

2) Voluntary Sector (Charities, NGO's etc)

The voluntary sector offers you the opportunity make a real difference and is ideal for people who are passionate about their work. Salaries are often lower than the private or public sector and there are fewer job opportunities and for those that do arise there is often stiff competition.

3) Private Sector (Environmental Consultancies)

The private sector usually offers a variety of work and the salaries and benefits are often better than the public or voluntary sector. The downside is that clients can sometimes be difficult to deal with, managing deadlines can be stressful and often results in long working hours.

Work shadowing and speaking to people working in these different sectors will help you decide whether you have any strong preferences for a particular sector. You can also discuss this with a Careers Adviser.

Work experience

Work experience is absolutely vital in this sector, however menial, in order to demonstrate your commitment and motivation for this highly competitive career area. In particular, for conservation related work you need to ensure that you obtain credible and directly relevant work experience with organisations such as BTCV. In other areas, such as environmental engineering or other more

technical positions there may well be plentiful jobs to apply for as a newly qualified graduate especially if you have had some industrial experience through a placement or via your dissertation. Here are some suggested sources of work experience, paid and unpaid.

Voluntary work:

Voluntary work is a great way to obtain relevant experience and so it would be worth contacting the following organisations for more information about what they might be able to offer:

- ❖ *BTCV* (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) www.btcv.org.uk
- ❖ *British Trust for Ornithology* www.bto.org - volunteers required nationally.
- ❖ '*Community Action*' at University of Exeter www.ca.ex.ac.uk for opportunities to volunteer in the local community during your studies.
- ❖ *Centre for Alternative Technology* www.cat.org.uk – short and long-term volunteers required.
- ❖ *Earth Centre* www.earthcentre.org.uk – The Earth Centre, Doncaster. Volunteers required & some short-term paid positions.
- ❖ *Environ* www.environ.org.uk - environmental charity based in Leicester. Volunteers required and student placement scheme where students stay for about a year and are paid a nominal sum.
- ❖ *Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens* www.farmgarden.org.uk – based in Bristol, volunteers required.
- ❖ *Friends of the Earth* www.foe.co.uk campaigns for the protection of the environment and requires volunteers for national and regional offices and in 250 local groups.
- ❖ *Global Action Plan UK* www.globalactionplan.org.uk – environmental charity. Volunteers required nationally.
- ❖ *Greenpeace* www.greenpeace.org.uk environmental campaign organisation. Volunteer opportunities in local groups.
- ❖ *Groundwork* – www.groundwork.org.uk – a regeneration charity which recruits volunteers across the country to participate in Groundwork Trust projects. Also advertises current vacancies with Groundwork. Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale co-ordinates a national volunteer programme (13 weeks) specifically aimed at graduates providing work experience for an environmental career. Graduates are placed with Groundwork Trusts across the North West and beyond. The Graduate Apprentice Programme (GAP) scheme, based in the Black Country is aimed at providing work experience to graduates interested in an environmental career. Ring 0121 5305500 got more details.
- ❖ *Millennium Volunteers* www.wearev.com – opportunities for 16 - 25 year olds to volunteer.
- ❖ *The National Centre for Volunteering* is an excellent source of information on volunteering – www.volunteering.org.uk
- ❖ *The Royal Botanic Gardens* www.kew.org/aboutus/volunteers charity dedicated to plant conservation. Volunteers needed to help with gardening, guiding and welcoming visitors and educating young children.
- ❖ *National Grid* www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Community/eec volunteers needed at their network of environmental education centres across the UK.

- ❖ *National Trust* www.nationaltrust.org.uk – list of voluntary positions is available from regional offices or you can search online. Full-time volunteer opportunities exist (from 3 months onwards); plus working holidays.
- ❖ *Natural England* www.naturalengland.org.uk – volunteers required.
- ❖ *RSPB* www.rspb.org.uk – Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Volunteers required.
- ❖ *Sustrans* www.sustrans.org.uk – offer nationwide volunteering opportunities and summer workcamp.
- ❖ *Sustain* www.sustainweb.org – Alliance for Better Food & Farming, London. Small number of volunteers required to help in the office. Need an interest in food and farming issues.
- ❖ *The Monkey Sanctuary* www.monkeysanctuary.org Cornwall, volunteers required.
- ❖ 'V' www.vinspired.com – volunteering opportunities for those aged 16 - 25
- ❖ *Volunteer Bureaux* in your local area e.g www.exetercvcs.org.uk Exeter Volunteer Centre.
- ❖ *Waterways Recovery Group* www.waterways.org.uk Volunteers required to work on Britain's neglected / derelict inland waterways – 'Canal Camps'.
- ❖ *Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust* www.wwt.org.uk based in Gloucestershire. Volunteers required, ideally one day a week commitment and need to live locally.
- ❖ *Wildlife Trusts* www.wildlifetrusts.org – 47 exist across the UK, volunteers required.
- ❖ *World Wildlife Fund* www.wwf.org.uk/jobs - world's largest and most experienced independent conservation organisation. WWF are unable to offer work placements or internships on a volunteer basis in the UK with the *exception* of their volunteer scheme in Scotland who need active volunteers – more information on: www.wwf.org.uk/core/about/scotland/sc_0000000382.asp

Graduate Training Schemes

There are only a few environment related graduate training schemes, mainly in engineering or technical disciplines, as follows:

- ❖ *Agricultural Development & Advisory Service (ADAS)* www.adas.co.uk – delivers sustainability research-based solutions. Broad environmental focus so wide range of degree disciplines considered.
- ❖ *Altran* www.altran.net consultancy – environmental, engineering, project management etc.
- ❖ *Arup* www.arup.com – a global design and business consulting firm offering a graduate training scheme mainly for engineers, environmental scientists, IT and geologists. 2:2 degree required.
- ❖ *Atkins* www.atkinsglobal.com engineering consultancy. Sectors include building design, highways, rail, aviation, water, oil & gas, nuclear, defence & the environment. Recruit graduates from a range of engineering and technical disciplines.
- ❖ *Campbell Reith* www.campbellreith.com consultancy – engineering & environmental.
- ❖ *Capita Symonds* www.capitasymonds.co.uk consultancy – environmental, sustainability, community regeneration, rail and aviation. Variety of degree disciplines.

- ❖ *Colin Buchanan* www.cbuchanan.co.uk consultancy – transportation, planning, economic and development. Geography, engineering, environmental science, maths, planning disciplines preferred.
- ❖ *Faber Maunsell* www.fabermaunsell.com transportation, building & environmental consultancy. Offer graduate, vacation and industrial placements in above areas. Looking for relevant social / technical degree discipline.
- ❖ *Gifford* www.gifford.uk.com consultancy – environment development planning.
- ❖ *Halcrow* www.halcrow.com consulting engineers. Similar to Atkins and interested in graduates in engineering and technical disciplines. Happy to receive speculative applications.
- ❖ *Max Fordham LLP* www.maxfordham.com consultancy – environmental and building services engineers. Physics / Engineering disciplines.
- ❖ *MVA Consultancy* www.mvaconsultancy.com consultancy – transportation and other policy areas. Geography, GIS, town planning, engineering, maths, economics, and social science disciplines.
- ❖ *MWH* www.mwhglobal.com consultancy – engineering and environmental services. Engineering and environmental graduates.
- ❖ *Ofwat* www.ofwat.gov.uk. Economic regulator of water industry in England and Wales. Interested in graduates with a scientific or analytical discipline.
- ❖ *Royal Haskoning* www.royalhaskoning.com. Interested in scientists and engineers.
- ❖ *Thames Water Utilities* www.thameswater.co.uk Engineering and environmental science graduates preferred.
- ❖ *Scott Wilson* www.scottwilson.com consultancy – engineering, management, environmental and transport consultants for sustainable development.
- ❖ *Somerset Environmental Records Centre* www.somerc.com offer a 12 month training scheme as a 'Survey and Planning Assistant' for people interested in a career in ecology or conservation. Recruit 14 graduates per year, based in Wellington, Somerset.
- ❖ *Transport Research Laboratory* www.trl.co.uk. Interested in graduates and postgraduates with degrees in civil & mechanical engineering, physics, maths, geography, psychology, geology, environmental and transportation disciplines.
- ❖ *Vaisala Ltd* www.vaisala.com environmental measuring and monitoring solutions. Geography, meteorology, environmental science and related disciplines preferred.
- ❖ *WSP* www.wspgroup.com global business providing management and consultancy services to the built and natural environment. Main business areas: property, transport & infrastructure, environmental. Approximately 150 graduates recruited per year.

Internships / Student Placements:

Student Placements have been offered by the following companies in the past but check their websites for the most up to date information:

- ❖ *Arup* www.arup.com – a global design and business consulting firm offering undergraduate placements for engineering students.

- ❖ *CEN* www.cen.org.uk Creative Environmental Networks. A not-for-profit organisation delivering a range of services to engage householders, businesses and communities in environmental and social improvement. Happy to consider work placements – send your CV.
- ❖ *CLA* www.cla.org.uk Country Land & Business Association - premier organisation safeguarding the interests of those responsible for land, property and business throughout rural England and Wales. Student placements are available, usually on an ad-hoc, short-term basis (surveying, land management, conservation). Contact CLA direct.
- ❖ *Faber Maunsell* www.fabermaunsell.com transportation, building & environmental consultancy. Offer graduate, vacation and industrial placements in above areas. Looking for relevant social / technical degree discipline.
- ❖ *FIELD* www.field.org.uk/internships Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development. Offer unpaid internships, working alongside international environmental lawyers, based in London but *only* for law graduates or students in their final year of a law degree. 3 intakes per year – summer, autumn & spring.
- ❖ *Forum for the Future (FFF)* www.forumforthefuture.org.uk – works with businesses and other organisations to develop a sustainability agenda. FFF has a scholarship programme Masters in leadership for Sustainable Development which takes 12 students each year for a 10 month programme of placements with different organisations. The aim of the scholarship is to equip these chosen few with the kind of knowledge and range of skills that future leaders and decision-makers will need. FFF also offer internships – check online for latest vacancies.
- ❖ *Frontier* www.frontier.ac.uk conservation expedition organisation. London office internships available.
- ❖ *Groundwork UK* www.groundwork.org.uk regeneration charity. Regularly offer volunteer placements across the UK – contact your nearest office. Groundwork Oldham and Rochdale co-ordinates a national volunteer programme specifically aimed at graduates, providing work experience. Recruit every 3 months via The Guardian, local press and also apply online.
- ❖ *Halcrow* – www.halcrow.com – an independent provider of infrastructure-based business specialises in the transport, water and property sectors. Student opportunities to gain paid work experience year round. Engineering and technical disciplines. Application available to download from their website.
- ❖ *Institute for European Environmental Policy* www.ieep.eu/aboutieep/jobs.php – independent centre for analysis and development of policies affecting the environment in Europe and beyond. Offices in London and Brussels. Details of internships are shown online, when available.
- ❖ *Liz Lake Associates* www.lizlake.com – Chartered Landscape Architects & Environmental Consultants in Essex. Year out opportunities for students of landscape architecture / related subjects. Check website for latest opportunities.
- ❖ *Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology* www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_offices/post.cfm – primary focus is on formal fellowship schemes for PhD students. Opportunities may exist for internships over the summer but need to apply at least 6 months in advance because of Parliamentary security clearance procedures.

- ❖ *People and Planet* www.peopleandplanet.org/careers. Large student organisation in the UK campaigning on poverty, human rights and the environment. Offer paid internships, unpaid voluntary placements either where you live or in the People and Planet Oxford office.
- ❖ *riverOcean* www.riverocean.org.uk non-profit environmental organisation. Unpaid internships available. Based in Brighton.
- ❖ *StudentForce for Sustainability (SFS)* www.studentforce.org.uk – national educational charity that enables young people to boost their employability while working and learning with communities and employers to promote sustainable development. SFS has a graduate resource project which offers paid placements, mainly in the East Midlands, East of England and London regions, for students and recent graduates of 2-12 months, with local authorities, business and community/voluntary organisations that promote and practice sustainable development. Prospectus is available to download. Vacancies listed online.
- ❖ *Transport Planning Society* www.tps.org.uk – transport planning summer placements.
- ❖ *Woodland Trust* www.woodland-trust.org.uk conservation charity. Offers 6 month internships based in Suffolk (unpaid but expenses connected with work are reimbursed). Internships booklet available to download.

Overseas Internships:

Many environmental organisations in other countries offer placements to interns, also called stagiaires. The working language is often English, and financial support and advice may be available from the British Council.

- ❖ *European Federation for Transport and Environment* – promotes sustainable transport across Europe and is based in Brussels – www.transportenvironment.org/module-htm/pages-display-pid-7.html. Sometimes offer internships.
- ❖ *Institute for European Environmental Policy* www.ieep.eu/aboutieep/jobs.php – independent centre for analysis and development of policies affecting the environment in Europe and beyond. Offices in London and Brussels. Details of internships are shown online, when available.
- ❖ *Renewable Energy Policy Project (REPP)* www.repp.org – researches and promotes renewable energy and sustainable technology, based in the US. REPP seeks unpaid interns to undertake research and analysis in renewable energy (minimum commitment of 3 months, based in Washington DC). Email CV to: jerrys@repp.org

Volunteering Overseas

Many of these schemes require you to self-fund the trip and can be very costly, so you may have to undertake some creative fundraising in order to participate.

- ❖ *Blue Ventures Conservation* www.blueventures.org – UK based charity dedicated to enhancing coral reef conservation and research. Marine scientists and volunteers required.
- ❖ *Coral Cay Conservation* www.coralcay.org volunteers required to collect biodiversity data.
- ❖ *Frontier* www.frontier.ac.uk conservation expedition organisation. Volunteers required to work on long-term marine and terrestrial conservation projects.
- ❖ *Global Vision International* www.gvi.co.uk - volunteers required.
- ❖ *Greenforce* www.greenforce.org – conservation work overseas.
- ❖ *International Voluntary Service* www.ivs-gb.org.uk – conservation work overseas.

- ❖ *Raleigh International* www.raleighinternational.org – volunteers for environmental / social projects overseas.
- ❖ *Starfish Ventures* www.starfishventures.co.uk - volunteers for environmental / social projects overseas.
- ❖ *Sunseed Desert Technology* www.sunseed.org.uk – Spanish based volunteer sustainability programme.
- ❖ *Trekforce* www.trekforce.org.uk – conservation work overseas.
- ❖ *Voluntary Service Overseas* www.vso.org.uk – for experienced professionals but also have a youth volunteering scheme (18-25 year olds) for those with little professional experience.
- ❖ *World Wildlife Fund* www.panda.org/how_you_can_help/volunteer/index.cfm – limited opportunities to volunteer overseas if you are under 27 and can fund your own expenses (e.g Australia, Canada, China, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands etc).
- ❖ *World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms* www.wwoof.org – worldwide volunteer work on organic farms in return for food and lodgings.

Speculative Approaches:

The above list is by no means exhaustive, so if you are interested in gaining some experience with a particular organisation not mentioned here then check their website for more information first, and then if they do not offer a 'formal' work experience scheme then make enquiries with them directly to discuss the possibility of undertaking some work experience with them – if you don't ask, you don't get!

You will need to prepare a CV and Covering Letter in order to do this – refer to the online CV Creator on www.exeter.ac.uk/employability for example CV's and covering letters to get you started and you can always have a draft version checked by a Careers Adviser.

Shell Step Programme:

For second or penultimate year students only, the Shell Step programme can be a useful way to obtain a summer placement in a related field and this scheme is available for students to participate in all over the UK. Click on www.shellstep.org.uk for more information.

Exepert:

Exepert is a scheme run by the University of Exeter who can put you in contact with alumni who have had success in their fields and who are willing to offer advice or an insight into their particular career area. Click on www.exeter.ac.uk/employability/graduates/exepert.shtml for more information.

Already graduated?

If you have already graduated from any University you could also consider the Graduate Business Partnership programme which is a 20 week project based placement which can be started at any time of the year in the Devon area. The projects on offer can be viewed at: www.exeter.ac.uk/employability/businessprojects. Graduates on this scheme receive a minimum of £300 a week salary and it can really help to enhance your CV and some projects have had an environmental theme. Included in the placement is a 10-day business training course which covers subjects such as project management, marketing, presentation skills, human resource management, entrepreneurship plus career management advice.

Postgraduate study

As the environmental field is so broad, you may need to consider undertaking full or part-time postgraduate study in order to specialise your knowledge further e.g Masters in Transport Planning. Although there are a range of conversion courses open to all graduates, some require you to have a relevant degree. You can use the following links to search for courses: www.findamasters.com and www.prospects.ac.uk.

If you are considering postgraduate study there is a really useful booklet available to help you through the process:

www.prospects.ac.uk/cms/ShowPage/Home_page/About_postgrad_study/why/p!ekIFeFX and it is advisable to speak to a Careers Adviser about your plans too. It will be important to ascertain the destinations of people who have undertaken any masters course you might be interested in, which should be available from the admissions tutor and usually collated by the careers service at the institutions you are considering. It will be useful to know what type of employment people who completed the course went into, as this will help you to see how beneficial the course might be, or not, in terms of your employability.

For those interested in environmental policy and practice, Forum for the Future run a Leadership for Sustainable Development Masters Programme which includes relevant placements. Check out www.forumforthefuture.org.uk for more information on this programme.

Further sources of environmental jobs and careers information

The following websites and resources provide you with more detailed information to help you on your way to an environmental career. Also, do make use of any existing contacts you may have in the environmental field for things like work shadowing. In most instances, organisations recruit graduates directly rather than through recruitment agencies. That said, there are a number of agencies specialising in the environment industry but these tend to advertise vacancies more suitable for job seekers with experience.

Paper based:

- ❖ The Guardian (Wednesdays)
- ❖ The Environment Post
- ❖ New Scientist
- ❖ Nature

Internet based:

- ❖ *Acre Resources* www.acre-resources.co.uk – occasionally has jobs for new graduates in landscape, ecology, environmental impact assessment and waste management.
- ❖ *AEA Energy & Environment* www.aea-energy-and-environment.com – sustainable energy consultancy.
- ❖ *Allen & York* www.allen-york.com - recruitment agency for environmental jobs.
- ❖ *Association of National Parks Authorities* www.nationalparks.gov.uk
- ❖ *British Antarctic Survey* www.antarctica.ac.uk/ - jobs in the Antarctic.
- ❖ *British Ecological Society* www.britishecologicalsociety.org
- ❖ *British Wind Energy Association* www.bwea.com – advertises jobs in the wind energy sector and provides a free service to jobseekers by circulating details to member companies in their e-newsletters.

- ❖ *Business in the Community (BITC)* www.bitc.org.uk - independent business-led charity with useful corporate social responsibility resources.
- ❖ *Careers in town planning* www.rtpi.org.uk/careers-and-membership/ctp.pdf
- ❖ *Chartered Institute of Wastes Management* www.ciwm.co.uk
- ❖ *Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management* www.ciwem.org.uk
- ❖ *Central Science Laboratory* www.csl.gov.uk – research news for DEFRA and job vacancies.
- ❖ *Centre for Research, Education & Training in Energy (CREATE)* www.create.org.uk – non-profit body working with communities and organisations on sustainability issues.
- ❖ *Council for Environmental Education* www.councilforee.org – provides environmental education programmes.
- ❖ *Countryside Agency* www.countryside.gov.uk
- ❖ *Countryside Education Trust* www.cet.org.uk environmental education charity.
- ❖ *Countryside Jobs Service* www.countryside-jobs.com
- ❖ *Department for Environment, Farming & Rural Affairs* www.defra.gov.uk
- ❖ *Ecological Recruitment* www.eco-uk.com – ecological recruitment.
- ❖ *Eden Recruitment* www.edenrecruitment.com – recruitment agency for environmental jobs.
- ❖ *English Heritage* www.english-heritage.org.uk
- ❖ *Environment Agency* www.environment-agency.gov.uk advertises current vacancies in ecology, engineering, environmental protection, fisheries, scientific, town planning, recreation and navigation, & water resources). Environment Agency employs Geoscientists and has produced a useful Geoscience Careers Guide available to download from their website.
- ❖ *Environmental Careers* www.environmentcareers.org.uk – useful environmental careers advice.
- ❖ *Environmental Data Interactive Exchange (Edie)* www.edie.net – online resource for environmental professionals.
- ❖ *Environmental Data Service* www.ends.co.uk – including a directory of environmental consultants.
- ❖ *Environment Jobs* www.environmentjobs.co.uk – job vacancies, requires registration which is free.
- ❖ *Enviro yellow pages* www.enviroyellowpages.com/environmentaljobs.html company database.
- ❖ *Ethical Jobs* www.ethical-jobs.co.uk – global jobs website, includes Corporate Social Responsibility jobs.
- ❖ *Evergreen* www.evergreen.org.uk – recruitment agency for environmental jobs.
- ❖ *Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group* www.fwag.org.uk

- ❖ *Field Studies Council* www.field-studies-council.org
- ❖ *Forestry Commission* www.forestry.gov.uk
- ❖ *Forum for the Future* www.forumforthefuture.org.uk - 10 month fast track programme for graduates for leadership roles in sustainable development.
- ❖ *Frontier* www.frontier.ac.uk - conservation expedition organisation. Overseas staff vacancies and London office internships.
- ❖ *Garden Forum* www.gardenforum.co.uk – horticulture and garden courses.
- ❖ *Green Directory* www.greendirectory.net – news and jobs.
- ❖ *Groundwork* www.groundwork.org.uk – current vacancies with Groundwork.
- ❖ *Growing Careers* www.growing-careers.com – agriculture / conservation jobs.
- ❖ *Guardian* www.guardianunlimited.co.uk – useful source of jobs.
- ❖ *Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management* www.ieem.org.uk
- ❖ *Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment* www.iema.net
- ❖ *Institute of Environmental Sciences* www.ies-uk.org.uk
- ❖ *Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research* www.iger.bbsrc.ac.uk
- ❖ *International Solar Energy Society* www.ises.org Few opportunities for employment but worth joining if interested in solar energy.
- ❖ *Jobsgopublic* www.jobsgopublic.com
- ❖ *Jobs in Transport* www.jobs-in-transport.com – jobs in transport, from senior management to graduate trainee in transport planning, modelling and appraisal, highway engineering, green travel planning/cycling/walking, bus and rail planning.
- ❖ *Lantra* www.lantra.co.uk - sector skills council for the environmental and land-based sector.
- ❖ *Lifeworth* www.lifeworth.com – Corporate Social Responsibility jobs.
- ❖ *Local government jobs* www.lgjobs.com
- ❖ *National Association for Environmental Education* www.naee.org.uk – environmental education charity.
- ❖ *National Association of Field Studies Officers* www.nafso.org.uk - represents those promoting field studies.
- ❖ *Natural Environment Research Council* www.nerc.ac.uk - major funding body for University research.
- ❖ *Nature* www.naturejobs.com – science jobs.
- ❖ *Naturenet* www.naturenet.net – countryside and conservation policy/issues.

- ❖ *New scientist* www.newscientistjobs.com
- ❖ *Peter Brett Associates* www.pba.co.uk. Consultancy – engineering, transport, water, environment, buildings etc. Offices across the UK, including Bristol and Taunton.
- ❖ *Rothamsted Research Institute* www.rothamsted.ac.uk - largest agricultural research centre in the UK.
- ❖ *Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew* www.rbhkew.org.uk/education/diploma/index.html – paid 3 year course in amenity horticulture.
- ❖ *Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors* www.rics.org
- ❖ *Royal Town Planning Institute* www.rtpi.org.uk
- ❖ *Sector 1* www.sector1.net – public sector jobs.
- ❖ *Society for the Environment* www.socenv.org.uk
- ❖ *Society of Environmental Engineers* www.environmental.org.uk
- ❖ *Soil Association* www.soilassociation.org – based in Bristol, advises on organic food production.
- ❖ *Student Force for Sustainability* www.studentforce.org.uk – projects in sustainable development and the environment.
- ❖ *SustainAbility* www.sustainability.com – sustainability think tank. Useful careers section.
- ❖ *United Nations Environment Programme* www.unep.org – works with >170 countries on sustainability issues.
- ❖ *World Wildlife Fund* www.wwf.org.uk/jobs – current vacancies with World Wildlife Fund.
- ❖ *WRAP* www.wrap.org.uk – Waste and Resources Action Programme.
- ❖ *Waste Watch* www.wastewatch.org.uk
- ❖ *Woodland Trust* www.woodland-trust.org.uk

Reference Books at the Careers & Employment Service (Reed Mews)

The following reference books are available to look at in the Information Room at the Careers and Employment Service in Reed Mews:

- ❖ *Environmental Careers – The Inside Guide*
- ❖ *Green Volunteers – world guide to voluntary work in nature conservation*
- ❖ *The Eco Guide to Careers that make a difference (American publication)*
- ❖ *The Green Directory – regional and national guide*
- ❖ *The Voluntary Agencies Directory*
- ❖ *Working with the Environment – guide to the full range of paid and voluntary opportunities in Britain, the USA, Europe and overseas.*

Job-hunting tactics

- ❖ Gain relevant and credible work experience.

- ❖ Join a relevant local group or organisation.
- ❖ Tailor project work or dissertation towards an environmental theme.
- ❖ Develop relevant skills e.g practical conservation skills through volunteering with BTCV.
- ❖ Research jobs and employers carefully.
- ❖ Keep up to date with current developments in the environmental field.
- ❖ Network like mad!
- ❖ Start early! For instance, start volunteering and researching different career options that interest you in your first and second year.

Need more help?

If you need further help to decide on a way forward then it would be a good idea to make an appointment to see a Careers Adviser to discuss your options. Telephone (01392) 264493 or call into the Careers and Employment Service in Reed Mews (opposite the student health centre) or The Works (Devonshire House) to make an appointment with a Careers Adviser.

The following links might also be worth looking at:

- www.ex.ac.uk/employability - 'I want to work in.....*Environment*'
- 'I want to work in.....*Earth Resources*'
- Wider Options Careers Week
- Jobsurfing database (Job vacancies, work placements & internships)
- Online CV Creator – example CV's/covering letters

- www.prospects.ac.uk - Occupational profiles
- Sector briefings (Environment, Food Chain & Rural)
- Prospects Planner (if you are unsure of your career ideas)

If in doubt, come and ask us at the Careers & Employment Service.

Overview of the range of environmental jobs available and a summary of any particular requirements or trends

NB for more detailed job descriptions, entry requirements, typical salaries etc please refer to the relevant occupational profile on the prospects website www.prospects.ac.uk click on 'Jobs and Work' and 'Explore types of jobs'.

Environmental Sector	Employers	Type of work	Job Titles	Professional Bodies	Other
Biodiversity	Voluntary sector e.g RSPB, WWF, wildlife Trusts. Local Authorities and Government Agencies e.g Environment Agency, English Nature etc.	Practical outdoor conservation work e.g field surveys. Policy / advisory level work on protecting, managing and enhancing the local environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Countryside Ranger. ❖ Biodiversity Officer. ❖ Nature Conservation Officer ❖ Ecologist 	Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management.	<p>Relevant and <u>credible</u> experience is vital e.g BTCV, wildlife Trusts etc. Practical conservation skills such as hedge laying, chainsaw certificate etc can be advantageous.</p> <p>Countryside Management or Conservation / Ecology degree or postgraduate qualification particularly useful.</p> <p>Very competitive.</p>
Open Spaces – Land Manager / Agents	Private landowners, forestry industry, local authorities, financial institutions, rural practice surveyors, property development companies.	Care for land, buildings, farms, woodlands, manage staff, deal with any tenants, financial & legal aspects of the estate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Countryside / Estate / Land Manager or Agent ❖ Rural Practice Surveyor 		<p>Often need environmental science, rural resource, surveying or geography degree.</p> <p>Work experience on a farm useful.</p>
Open Spaces - Forestry	Forestry Commission, private forest companies, local authorities & government agencies.	Forest management planning and day to day planting & harvesting of trees, staff training/management. Opportunities to specialise e.g tree survey & inspection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Forest Manager ❖ Forestry Worker ❖ Arboriculturist 	Institute of Chartered Foresters; Arboricultural Association.	Arboriculture degree / postgraduate qualification is advantageous as specialist knowledge is required.
Open Spaces – Landscape Design	Private landscape architects practice. Contract work common.	Usually work alongside planners, surveyors and other professionals to create the landscape around us e.g plan, design and manage open spaces (both natural & built environments).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Landscape Architect / Designer 	The Landscape Institute	Accredited postgraduate qualification in landscape architecture is required if not undertaken at undergraduate degree level.

Environmental Sector	Employers	Type of work	Job Titles	Professional Bodies	Other
Farming	Farm management companies, single-owner farms, DEFRA Schemes, Agricultural Development & Advisory Service (ADAS), environmental and conservation bodies e.g FWAG, RSPB etc,	Tend animals, sow and reap crops, organise farm administration and finances, manage staff, work farm equipment etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Farmers and Farm Managers ❖ Agricultural Consultant ❖ Animal Breeder ❖ Animal Nutritionist ❖ Fish Farm Manager 	Institution of Agricultural Engineers. Lantra.	<p>Agricultural / environmental degree useful. Postgraduate courses available in aquaculture.</p> <p>Relevant work experience on a farm required.</p> <p>Trends towards organic farming and farm diversification e.g B&B's, Farm Shops etc.</p>
Horticulture	Commercial growers, production nurseries, DEFRA, ADAS, environmental & conservation bodies, local authorities, specialist botanic gardens, garden centres, commercial leisure enterprises e.g golf courses.	Commercial plant production using latest techniques, designing and working in parks and gardens, care of sports facilities etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Horticultural Consultant ❖ Commercial Horticulturist. ❖ Horticultural Therapist ❖ Amenity Horticulturist ❖ Plant Breeder / Geneticist ❖ Soil Scientist ❖ Field Trials Officer 	Institute of Horticulture.	<p>Agriculture / horticulture / environmental degree useful but not essential. Practical experience is essential. Horticultural Consultant particularly competitive as vast experience required.</p>
Pollution Prevention	Local authorities, government departments, industry e.g chemical companies, energy producers, pharmaceutical companies etc.	Often specialise in prevention of pollution of water, soil, air. Generalists too. Lab-based and field work.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Water Quality Scientist ❖ Environmental & Safety Inspector ❖ Air Quality Manager ❖ Soil Scientist ❖ Environmental Manager 	Several including Chartered Institution of Wastes Management, Chartered Institution of Environmental Scientists, Institute of Environmental Management & Assessment.	<p>Environmental Science / Chemistry / Geology & Ecology graduates preferred.</p> <p>A postgraduate qualification can be helpful but needs to be directly relevant.</p>
Environmental Health	Local authorities mostly.	Food safety, noise issues, industrial waste, housing, health & safety, pollution control, and control of infectious diseases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Environmental Health Officer 	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health	BSc or MSc in Environmental Health required, which must be accredited by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health.

Environmental Sector	Employers	Type of work	Job Titles	Professional Bodies	Other
Waste Management	Local authorities, Environment Agency, private companies, and waste management companies involved in disposal, collection & developing new technologies to deal with waste	Waste minimisation, advice and promotion, laboratory work, contract management, policy and strategic waste issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Recycling Officer ❖ Waste Strategy Officer ❖ Process Engineer ❖ Landfill Site Manager ❖ Lab Technician 	Chartered Institution of Wastes Management.	Environmental Science, Chemistry, Geology, Biology degree subject preferred.
Energy	Industrial companies, public authorities and research institutes.	Improving energy efficiency of domestic and commercial properties. Development of renewable energy sources e.g solar, wave etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Energy Managers ❖ Energy Conservation Officer 	The Energy Institute.	Specialist engineering / energy / environmental science degrees now available. Postgraduate courses in energy management are also available which can help to enhance employability.
Water	Private water companies, government agencies & regulatory bodies e.g OFWAT, and research facilities e.g Institute of Hydrology.	Analysis, protection and management of our water resources. Can specialise in drinking water, surface water (rivers, lakes, estuaries) or groundwater.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Water Operations Manager ❖ Water Quality Scientist ❖ Water Conservation Officer ❖ Hydrogeologist 	Chartered Institution of Water & Environmental Management. The Institute of Water Officers.	Science / engineering degrees often required. There is a current shortage of hydrogeologists – useful degrees for this area include earth science, environmental, maths, civil engineering, scientific and geography. Refer to www.groundwateruk.org/html/careers5.htm
Environmental Management / Auditing / Assessment	Private, public and voluntary sectors. A growing area.	Holistic management of environmental performance (water, air, land, waste, noise pollution etc). Increasingly becoming a broader role to encompass Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Environmental Manager ❖ Environmental Consultant ❖ Environmental Auditor ❖ EMS Consultant / Co-ordinator 	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment.	A postgraduate qualification can help, if directly relevant e.g environmental management masters. Engineering, Physics, Biology, Geography, Environmental Science, Geology, Sustainable Development disciplines preferred. A growing number of specialist postgraduate qualifications are becoming available in sustainable business and CSR.

Environmental Sector	Employers	Type of work	Job Titles	Professional Bodies	Other
Environmental Engineering & Eco-Design	Wide range of industry investing in environmental engineering research & development. Small environmental consultancies specialising in this. A growing area.	Developing and designing appropriate technologies to improve internal and external environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Environmental Engineer ❖ Environmental Designer 	Society of Environmental Engineers. Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management.	New University courses in Environmental Production and Sustainability and Environmental Technology to cater for growing demand for expertise in these areas.
Town Planning	Local authorities, government departments, consultancies. A growing area.	Look at the consequences of any new developments e.g a new housing estate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Town Planner (development control or enforcement) ❖ Planning Technicians 	Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).	RTPI accredited degree qualification required. Postgraduate courses available if first degree is not RTPI accredited.
Transport	Local authorities, government agencies, voluntary sector (e.g Sustrans), transport companies and consultancies. A growing area, excellent prospects.	Promoting and using transport in an environmentally and socially responsible way.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Transportation Planner ❖ Traffic / Highways Engineer ❖ Cycling Officer 	Institution of Highways and Transportation. Transport Planning Society.	Candidates with a postgraduate qualification in transport planning, transport management, transport engineering are highly sought after.



Careers and Employment Service
 Reed Mews
 Streatham Drive
 Exeter
 EX4 4QP

Tel: (01392) 264493

Email: careers@exeter.ac.uk

www.exeter.ac.uk/employability