



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES

# Environmental Science & Protection Technician

Environmental Technicians will typically work under the direction of a lead environmental scientist, biologist, or ecologist to conduct environmental monitoring through lab and field tests.



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# career profile

Name: Mariah Shoemaker  
Job Title: Environmental Science  
and Protection Technician

Employer: City of Orlando

Education: AAS, Hillsborough Community College: Tampa, Florida


 I took agriculture classes in high school and had a Placement Supervised Agricultural Experience Program. During my senior year I worked at a local laboratory after school. It was a win-win situation. I was paid, and I got practical experience that would help me with my career plans.

 I am now an environmental science and protection technician. My responsibilities include testing air, water, and soil samples collected within the city limits for pollutants. I carefully record the information regarding the collection process. The samples are taken to the laboratory where most of my work is done. There, I perform tests using laboratory equipment following standard operating procedures. I run tests that analyze

samples for the presence and concentration of contaminants.

I record test data and prepare reports, summaries, and charts that interpret the results. I refer to standardized tables to compare test results. I explain the results to those people and businesses that are associated with the issue. The evidence I uncover is often used to enforce environmental laws.

Sometimes the results are not welcome, but the public's safety is my primary concern. I'm responsible for maintaining test result files for future reference. In addition, I maintain an inventory of laboratory supplies, order supplies as needed, and calibrate laboratory equipment.

 Overall, I find my work interesting. I especially like analyzing samples in the laboratory.





# Environmental Science and Protection Technician

## overview



An **environmental science and protection technician** will typically work under the direction of a lead environmental scientist, biologist, or ecologist to conduct environmental monitoring through lab and field tests.

## suggested high school courses



[environmental science](#), chemistry, earth science, biology, natural resources, computer science, and mathematics

## experience needed



Seek job placement opportunities while attending school. Plan and implement a related Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program.

## degree(s) required



An associate's degree in natural resources, environmental science, soil science, biology, or a related science field is required.

## potential employers



professional, scientific, and technical services firms; state and local governments; universities

## salary range



\$35,000 to \$50,000

## employment outlook and trends



The employment outlook of environmental science and protection technicians is **high**.

## professional organizations



Ecological Society of America [www.esa.org/](http://www.esa.org/)  
National Environmental Health Association [www.neha.org/credential/](http://www.neha.org/credential/)



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