

Recruitment Hotsheet – Environmental Engineering

Environmental engineers use the principles of biology and chemistry to develop solutions to environmental problems. They are involved in water and air pollution control, recycling, waste disposal and public health issues. Environmental engineers conduct hazardous-waste management studies, in which they evaluate the significance of the hazard, advise on its treatment and containment, and develop regulations to prevent mishaps. They are also responsible for designing municipal water supply and industrial wastewater treatment systems, conducting research on the environmental impact of proposed construction projects, analyzing scientific data and performing quality-control checks. Environmental engineers are concerned with environmental issues, both local and worldwide. Some may work to minimize the effects of acid rain, global warming, automobile emissions and ozone depletion. Others may be involved in the protection of wildlife. Often, environmental engineers work as consultants, helping their clients comply with regulations, prevent environmental damage and clean up hazardous sites.

Employment Trends

In 2008, engineers held about 1.6 million jobs in the United States. About 3%—54,300—of these were environmental engineers, making it the eighth largest category of engineering occupations. However, the field of environmental engineering is expected to see employment growth of 31% by 2018, a much faster rate than the average for all occupations. Several factors are expected to spur demand for environmental engineers. More environmental engineers will be needed to help companies comply with environmental regulations and to develop methods for cleaning up environmental hazards. Also, experts see a shift in emphasis toward preventing problems rather than simply controlling those that already exist. Another factor will be increasing public health concerns resulting from population growth. Because of this predicted employment growth, job opportunities should be favorable.

Top Markets

1. New York, NY
2. Washington, D.C.
3. Boston, MA
4. Los Angeles, CA
5. Chicago, IL

Top Programs

[Stanford University](#)
[University of California Berkeley](#)
[University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign](#)
[University of Texas – Austin](#)
[Georgia Institute of Technology](#)

Media Spotlight: Blogs

[Eco.org](#)
[Enviro Blog](#)
[Jeston Green](#)
[Smart Grid](#)

Online Networks

[AAEE Facebook](#)
[AAEE LinkedIn Group](#)
[Eco.org](#)
[ENG-Tips Forums](#)

E-Newsletters

[AAEE News](#)
[Eco Jobs Newsletter](#)
[ED+C News](#)
[EWRI Update](#)
[FastTIMES](#)

Upcoming Events

ASFE Spring Meeting 2011, April 7-9, 2011 – St. Louis, MO
SAGEEP 2011, April 10-14, 2011 – Charleston, SC
Solid Waste Association Annual Spring Conference, April 11-12, 2011 – Atlantic City, NJ
2011 Washington Hydrogeology Symposium, April 26 -28, 2011 – Tacoma, WA
World Environment & Water Resources Congress, May 22-26, 2011 – Palm Springs, CA
2011 AEG Conference, September 19-24, 2011 – Anchorage, AK