



WORK INSPIRATION – Environmental sector

The Environmental sector is one of the most upcoming areas discussed globally. With Brexit and the current climate crisis becoming key talking points, there is a great demand for upcoming students who are passionate and eager to create a more sustainable environment for the future.

Benefits to Working in the Environmental Sector

- A sector which is current and upcoming with plenty of opportunities in the years to come
- Knowing that you are working in a sector which is going to change the lives of future generations
- A balanced work-based ratio of carrying out field work and desktop studies
- An exciting career with no two days the same
- Engaging with clients, stakeholders and colleagues improving your communication skills, writing, survey taking, data analysis to planting trees! A wide range of skills to tailor to any environment enthusiast
- Learning 'hands on' experience and practical skills putting your knowledge to the test. Great for kinetic or visual learners

Most people with an environmental background will enter the field of consultancies, city councils, charities, or governmental organisations. However, with a wide variety of skills it opens doors to many employment opportunities.

Key Skills Developed Through an Environmental Background

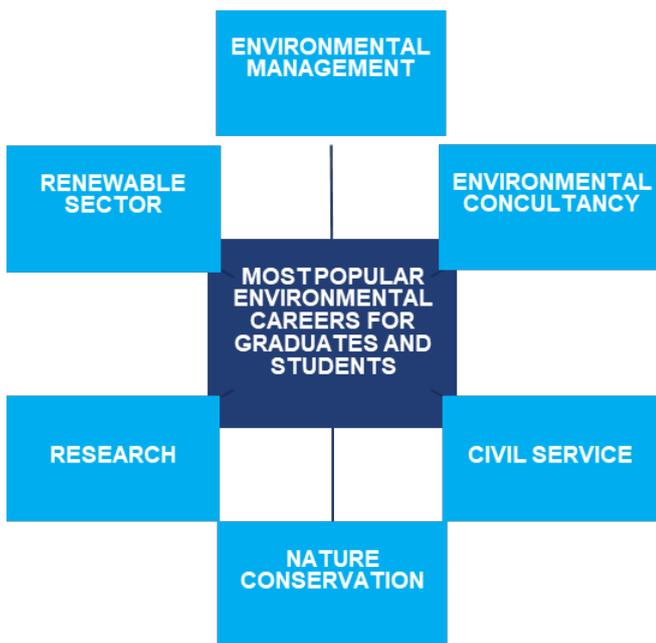
- Problem solving
- Observation skills and critical thinking
- Statistical and data analysis
- Analytical skills
- Communication
- Written and technical skills
- Ability to work on team projects as well as individually

Work Inspiration
An initiative of



The Responsible
Business Network
Northern Ireland

Popular environmental careers



- At **Target Careers** you can [investigate green jobs](#) you might enjoy, from careers in renewable energy to becoming an ecologist or sustainability manager
- Dreamed of a career in **wildlife conservation**. **Environment Job** [showcases](#) the 'Top 3 Skills for Conservationists in the Modern World'
- How to kickstart your career into [horticulture](#) – a blog from the **Environment Job**
- The **National Careers Service** has selection of [Environment and Land careers](#) to explore
- Explore **Natural Environment Research Council**. All **environmental scientists** share a common goal: to better understand the Earth and its systems, and to identify the impact that humans have upon it.
 - Career as an [ecologist](#)
 - Career as an [environmental physicist](#)
 - Career as a [geologist](#)
 - Career as a [hydrologist](#)
 - Career as an [ice modeller](#)
 - Career as a [marine biologist](#)
 - Career as a [microbiologist](#)
 - Career as a [physicist](#)
 - Career as a [volcanologist](#)
- On **Prospects** website, explore a [range of jobs](#) in areas such as conservation, sustainability, and environmental research and education. There is a section of [40 job profiles](#) available. Articles from February 2021, an [overview](#) of the environmental sector and how to get an [environmental job](#)
- **Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)** have a section on '[I Want To Be](#)' an **ecologist or environmental manager**. A [guide](#) to a career in **ecology**, and information on [range of employers](#) who require their skills
- **Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)** Careers [advice](#) from leading experts in the water and environmental management sector for anyone interested in pursuing a career that can have a genuine impact on solving the climate crisis
- **BBC Bitesize Careers** have a great article on [4 jobs](#) that could save the planet. Including a Northern Ireland role model, [Aine](#) from Belfast who is an **energy assessor** in construction. Also [read](#) Gabrielle's career story, on how to become an **ecologist**.

Key subjects to get you on an environmental course at university

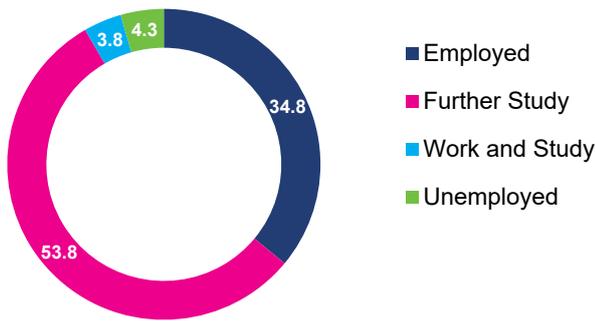
A level or equivalent is usually required in:

- 2, from Geography, Biology, Chemistry, Physics or Maths

Popular degrees you can study:

- Geography
- Ecology
- Conservation Biology
- Environment and Sustainability
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Engineering
- Renewable Energy Engineering

Average Graduate Destinations after a Degree in Environmental Science



Source: PROSPECTS 2020

Where to find the course or job right for you?

Whether you are looking for further education, experience or employment, there are many opportunities in Northern Ireland in the environmental sector to suit any student or graduate

Undergraduate Courses

- NiDirect.gov - Information on where to go and what to study in Northern Ireland
- [TheUniGuide](#) – reviews courses with feedback from students, downloadable prospectus and shows important dates of open days
- [UCAS](#) – careers, apprenticeships, and support on applying to universities. UCAS helps students of all levels reach their skills and qualifications for the future

Updated March 2021

To find out more about our Work Inspiration programme, please contact [Joanne Mehaffy](#) or visit www.workinspiration-ni.com

Postgraduate Courses

If you are looking to expand your knowledge or just refine your expertise to suit your future career, postgraduate study is a great way of showing an employer you are eager to learn more and can benefit you when applying for graduate roles.

Great websites to consider further study include:

- Postgrad.com
- PostgraduateSearch.com
- FindaMasters.com

Opportunities and experience for recent graduates and students

- [Gradcracker](#) Tailored to S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subject employment
- [NIEnvironmentLink](#) Recruitment, volunteering and training opportunities in the environment and community
- [MilkRound](#) Great for career advice, internships, graduate positions and offer a personality quiz to see what role suits you