

ENVIROED

NEWSLETTER SPRING 2014



PUBLISHED BY THE NEW YORK WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION –PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



PROSPECTS FOR THE BEST-PAYING ENVIRONMENTAL JOBS

Technicians, scientists, engineers, hydrologists, and other types of environmental jobs are increasing faster this decade than the average for all U.S. occupations, in some cases almost twice as fast.

The environmental job categories in the United States with the highest median pay rates include environmental engineers (2010 median: \$78,740) and hydrologists (2010 median: \$75,690). In almost all cases these require a master's or advanced degree; fortunately, the educational investment is likely to pay off because openings will be plentiful. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projected jobs for environmental engineers will increase by 22 percent from 2010 to 2020, while the jobs for hydrologists will increase by 18 percent.

By contrast, the projected growth for all job categories in the U.S. economy during the same period is 14 percent, and the median pay for all occupations in 2010 was \$33,840, according to BLS.

Hello; my name is Khris Dodson and this is my first time writing you as Chairman of NYWEA's Public Outreach Committee. I'd like to thank outgoing chair, Joe Corrado, for everything he has done and continues to do to promote and provide public education for NYWEA.

Water is perhaps the most important resource on the planet. Try going a day without it. The sad fact is, there are people who struggle to have access to clean drinking water everyday around the world. As Americans, abundant clean water is sometimes taken for granted. And, as students preparing to enter into the workforce, considering a career in our nation's water infrastructure has never been so vital. Most people want a job where they can "change the world," serving your community by providing clean water is probably one of the best ways to change the world a little each day.

According to the US Department of Labor, job prospects for water and wastewater operators and similar positions is excellent. Often, on-the-job training is offered so little college or trade school experience is necessary. The median pay for these positions is not shabby either, and the long-term employment prospects are usually quite good.

So, as you are preparing to enter the workforce, and begin to consider what you want to do and where you want to do it, take some time to think about becoming a water or wastewater operator.

And, don't forget, NYWEA members are always available to speak to classrooms and we also welcome you and your school to be part of one of our upcoming programs. If you are interested, please contact me at kdodson@syracusecoe.com or Ms. Beth Petrillo at bpetrillo@dep.nyc.gov.

Our committee values your opinion and ideas! If you have any suggestions for future newsletters or are interested in helping out, please let me know!

With water on the mind,

Khris Dodson
Public Education & Outreach Chair

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BLS also predicts better-than-average projected growth of 18 percent for environmental scientists and specialists, a category with 89,400 existing U.S. jobs in 2010, according to the agency. Median pay for these professionals in 2010 was \$61,700.

A master's degree is required for hydrologists, who collect water samples, test for pollution levels, and solve problems of water quality and availability. While some environmental employment categories are available to candidates with a bachelor's degree, a master's or advanced degree is a big advantage.

Environmental compliance officers also are in demand. Government agencies at all levels and oil and gas companies are top employers for these positions. Nonprofit groups are instrumental in the worldwide environmental industry, and advanced degrees are key for those seeking their higher positions.

Reprinted from Environmental Protection, February 2013



AWARDS & CONTESTS

2014 U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize

What is the SJWP?

The International Stockholm Junior Water Prize (SJWP) is the most prestigious youth award for a high school water science research project. Its purpose is to increase youth attention toward the water environment, and to sensitize them – as future leaders - to local and global water challenges. HRH Crown Princess Victoria is the patron of the prize. In a royal ceremony, during World Water Week, the international winner receives \$5,000 USD and a blue crystal sculpture.

The SJWP was founded by the Stockholm Water Foundation and is administered by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). ITT Industries is the global sponsor.

In the United States, the Water Environment Federation (WEF), and its member associations, sponsor and organize the state and national competition with support from ITT Industries and The Coca-Cola Company.

<http://www.wef.org/SJWP>

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION SUMMER CAMPS

Children aged 11 to 17 years old can attend a fun-filled week at camp where they learn about the environment and engage in various outdoor activities such as sports, fishing, hiking and canoeing. Campers can even take Hunter Education or Bowhunter Education courses during their stay to qualify for their sporting license.

The cost of camp is \$350 a week. For more information visit <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html>

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

www.nyweametro.org

This is the Metropolitan chapter website of the New York Water Environment Federation.

www.nyc.gov/dep

This site offers all kinds of information about DEP from educational opportunities to careers.

www.dec.ny.gov

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has launched a new electronic newsletter for families. It is called DEC Outdoor Discovery.

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS (SAME) SUMMER CAMP

The camp will take place on June 22-28, 2014 at Camp Lejueune, NC. It is available for high school students. If anyone is interested, please contact the NJ Post Engineering Camp coordinator, Doug Sullivan, at douglas.sullivan4@gmail.com



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2

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Each issue introduces subscribers to a seasonal environmental or nature topic, suggests a related activity, and lists family-friendly events at DEC's environmental education center.

To subscribe, go to the website above and click on *DEC Outdoor Discovery*.

www.epa.gov/teachers

This is EPA's newly revised and improved environmental education website for teachers. One new feature is the addition of grade levels for the cited classroom materials.

<http://www.epa.gov/fishadvisories/kids>

EPA website for kids.

www.teachengineering.com

Teach Engineering is a multi-university partnership that has developed K-12 engineering education curriculum modules that are standards-based, free and available over the internet. It aims to equip teachers with lessons in science, math and engineering that are creative and exciting.

<http://science.nsta.org>

National Science Teachers Association newsletter. Each issue is filled with informative articles.

<http://www.wef.org/LearnAboutWater/ForEducators/CurriculumMaterials/>

The Water Environment Federation has many children's publications including *Water the Amazing Journey* "Go With The Flow, and World-wide Waste, It's not a Load of Rubbish."

www.engineeringk12.org

Go Engineering's e-newsletter is for K-12 educators. Its purpose is to promote the importance of engineering and technology education and explore the many ways that engineering and technology can help teachers meet the challenge of making mathematics and science come alive for students.

www.pbs.org/journeytoplanetearth

Funded by the National Science Foundation, *Journey To Planet Earth* is a video series that helps students and adults understand the most critical and timely issues facing the natural sciences.

<http://pbskids.org/curiousgeorge>

Explore sand, water, and wind with *Curious George*. Use the Curiosity Center Activities to host a hands-on Earth Science event for the children and in your classroom. Children will be eager to visit the hands-on Curiosity Centers, exploring and making their own discoveries.

www.epa.gov/watersense/water/drop.htm

The WaterSense program announces an exciting new set of educational materials for kids and teachers "A Day in the Life of a Drop" teaches students about the connections between

the sources of the water they use and how that use affects human health and the environment. These fun learning materials include a teacher's guide, two student worksheets, a spreadsheet to track water use at home, and a pledge for students and their families to filter out bad water habits.

<http://www.discoverwater.org>

This site is for parents and kids to learn more about water.

<http://www.asce.org/Audience/Kids-Parents-Teacher/Kids/Engineering-Imagine-that-With-Pauley-Perrette-of-NCIS>

Engineering resource.

<http://www.egfi-k12.org>

Engineering resource

<http://www.aeee.net/CareersinEnvironmentalEngineering.php>

www.tryengineering.org

This site gives students an opportunity to explore careers in engineering fields.

www.trycomputing.org

This site gives students an opportunity to explore careers in associated computer fields.

NYWEA SCHOLARSHIPS

Did you know that NYWEA has a Child of Member Scholarship? Do you have a son or daughter following in your environmental footsteps? If so, you may want to encourage them to submit a scholarship application in the Child of Member category.

JIM ANDERSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Jim Anderson Memorial Scholarship offers one \$1,250 scholarship annually. Applicants must be enrolled in a BS or BE full-time engineering program with a focus on environmental issues, particularly water/wastewater.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 1, 2014

For more information regarding these scholarships please visit the NYWEA website, www.nywea.org.

NYWEA has other scholarships available. For more information, visit the above mentioned website.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your Calendars!

World Water Day 2014

March 22nd – December 31, 2014

This is an international outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world. Thousands of people worldwide are expected to connect with and monitor their local water bodies through a series of simple, hands-on tests. For more information about the program, including how to order monitoring kits, please visit www.worldwatermonitoringday.org.

Water Week in New York

May 4-10, 2014

Water week has been an annual tradition since 1985. It is a time to focus on our wealth of water and to find ways to help protect, restore and conserve it. Find ideas on water related activities at DEC's Watershed Stewardship and Local Watershed Association web pages.

NYWEA Spring Technical Conference & Exhibition

June 2-4, 2014

Hyatt Regency, Hauppauge, NY

