Explore Careers in Energy, Environment & Sustainability

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Specialties: Focus on career development, programming and employer partnerships in the sciences, engineering, technology, environment, energy, architecture/urban planning, international development and government industries.  See less
Today’s Agenda

- The job/internship search process
- Strategies
- State of the Industries
- Where the jobs/internships are
- Sustainability Trends
- Timeline
- Resources
- Examples
Job Search Process

Will it take 30 days or 3 months?

Self Assessment → Research Options → Prepare Job Search Documents → Apply → Interview → Negotiate Terms → Accept → Start Work!
Strategies: Exploration

Plan & Prepare:
- Harvard Alumni Directory (degree candidates)
- LinkedIn
- Online Resources
- Professional Groups / Associations
- Talk to folks you know doing interesting work
- Workshops / Programs / Events
State of the industry

Federal Funding?
Federal Hiring Freeze?
EPA?

But, the bright side....
State of the industry

- MA ranks 2nd in US Clean Tech Leadership Index, Boston ranks 3rd in metro areas with the most clean tech jobs
- Boston/MA rank 1st by American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy for efficiency
- Highest concentration of opportunities in:
  - Energy Efficiency
  - Renewable Energy
  - Smart Grid
Where to find opportunities…

**Energy**

- **Wind** (farm development, turbine manufacture)
- **Solar** (photovoltaics)
- **Storage** (fuel cells / batteries)
- **Green Const / Efficiency** (design, engineering, planning)
- **Finance / Tech** (energy mgmt, software)
- **Government / Policy**
- **Research / Analysis** (consulting, think tanks)
Where to find opportunities… (company examples)

Energy

- **Wind** (Acciona, Altaeros, Siemens, Vestas)
- **Solar** (Borrego, Solectria, Sunpower, Solar City, Vivint)
- **Storage** (Form Energy, Tesla)
- **Green Const / Efficiency** (New Ecology Inc, NYSERDA)
- **Finance / Tech** (EnelX, Global Impact Investing Network, New Island Capital)
- **Government / Policy** (DOE, Union of Concerned Scientists, MA Dept of Energy Resources)
- **Research / Analysis** (IHS, ICF, Brookings)
Where to find opportunities…

**Environment**

- **Climate Change** (modeling, mitigation)
- **Conservation & Natural Resources** (research/fieldwork)
- **Clean Water / Technology** (resource recovery)
- **Policy** (research, analysis, legislation)
- **Government** (local, state, fed)
- **Non-profit** (advocacy, associations)
- **Consulting** (advising, analysis, risk management)
Where to find opportunities… (company examples)

**Environment**

- **Climate Change** (SAIC, Weather Predict Consulting, Center for Resource Solutions, The Climate Group)
- **Conservation & Natural Resources** (Nature Conservancy, NRDC)
- **Clean Water / Technology** (Cambrian Innovation, Imagine H2O)
- **Policy** (RAND, World Resources Institute, Enviro Law Institute, Resources for the Future)
- **Government** (EPA, City of Cambridge, MA Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs)
- **Non-profit** (American Forest Foundation, Environment MA, Sierra Club)
- **Consulting** (ERM, Cadmus, ERG, Arcadis, Ramboll Environ, TetraTech)
Where to find opportunities…

**Sustainability**

- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Sustainable Building / Development
- Energy Conservation / Efficiency
- Life Cycle Analysis & Supply Chain
- Education / Universities
- Consulting
Where to find opportunities... (company examples)

**Sustainability**

- **Corporate Social Responsibility** (internally e.g. Sony, Pepsi, Microsoft; BC Center for Corporate Citizenship)

- **Sustainable Building / Development** (Cherokee Investment Partners, NYSERDA, Jacobs)

- **Energy Conservation / Efficiency** (Pure Strategies, Ameresco, Carbon Lighthouse)

- **Life Cycle Analysis & Supply Chain** (ThinkStep, Sustainability Consortium, internally e.g. Pepsi, Apple)

- **Education / Universities**

- **Consulting** (Green Order, J Ottman Consulting, Strategic Sustainability Consulting, SustainAbility)
Corporate Citizenship - profile

Most frequently cited as part of job responsibilities:
- Building internal partnerships with other departments (86.3 percent)
- Building relationships with external stakeholders

Top three skills most critical to success:
- Ability to influence
- Leading/motivating others
- Network building

Source: BC Center for Corporate Citizenship Profile of the Profession
Trends You Need to Know About

- Sustainability is no longer consumer driven
- Large & medium companies demanding supply chain sustainability
- Public policy drives creation of sustainability jobs (e.g. extended producer / takeback)
- Integration of sustainability into other roles
Keys to a successful job search

- Build knowledge base - stay current on trends
  - Read books, articles, research reports, blogs
- Join groups and networks
- Use job boards AND social / professional networks
- Attend conferences & events:
  - Corporate Citizenship Conference (Mar)
  - Mass Green Career Conference (Oct)
  - Mass Sustainable Communities Conference (March)
  - Business for Social Responsibility Conference (Nov)
  - U.S. Chamber of Commerce Circular Economy Summit (June)
  - Net Impact National Conference (Nov)
  - Sustainable Brands Conference (May)
Timeline – When should you apply?

Varies depending on industry / function and when you will start

- Energy
- Environment
- Sustainability
Resources – Energy

https://www.energyfolks.com/
http://www.energy.gov/scholarships&internships.htm
https://www.nrel.gov/careers/internships.html
https://acore.org/careers/
Resources – Environment

http://www.idealist.org/ (non-profit)
http://www.ecojobs.com/ (comprehensive)
http://jobs.oriongrassroots.org/ (conservation)
http://www.worldwildlife.org/about/careers (conservation)
http://www.ucsusa.org/about/internships.html (research)
http://career.ucsd.edu/undergraduates/getting-experience/internship-information/off-campus-internships/dc-internships/environmental-policy-agriculture.html (policy)
Resources – Sustainability

http://www.greenbiz.com/jobs
http://ccc.bc.edu/index.cfm?pageId=2786
http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/greendreamjobs/jobs/
http://netimpact.org
http://weinrebgROUP.com/ (postings / resources)
Resources – People

- Harvard Alumni Directory (thousands of listings!)
- Head of European Climate and Energy Policy, WWF Brussels, Belgium
- Chief of Staff, Massachusetts Clean Energy Center
- Environmental Organic Chemist, US Geological Survey
- Policy Analyst, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Director, Mission Programs Online, National Geographic
- Project Manager, Renewable and Alternative Power, Southern California Edison
- President, Cody Energy Group
- Co-Founder, Helical Turbine of Massachusetts
- Analyst, Sound Energy Partners
- Consultant, Int'l Sustainable Projects, The World Bank
- Deputy Chief of Party, USAID-Energy and Clean Air Project
- Originator, Biofuels Europe & Africa, BP
- Managing Director-Climate Policy, Duke Energy
- Senior Resident Fellow, Urban Land Institute
- Vice President, Sustainability, Dow Chemical Company
Sample Job Titles

- Energy & Sustainability Analyst
- Manager – Climate Change & Sustainability Services
- Fresh Market Manager
- Director of Global Citizenship
- Environmental Sustainability Consultant
- Program Officer
- Sustainability Coordinator
- Sustainability Services Project Specialist
- Manager Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Advisory Sustainable Business Solutions Managing Director
Examples of Current Openings

**Sustainability and Emerging Tech Intern**
*City of New York, NY*

NYC Parks’ mission is to plan resilient and sustainable parks, public spaces, and recreational amenities, build a park system for present and future generations, and care for parks and public spaces to benefit New Yorkers across the five boroughs.

Through an effort to improve the quality, accessibility, efficiency and sustainability of our city parks by increasing investment in underserved neighborhoods and expanding parkland: NYC Parks’ Community Parks Initiative is completely redesigning and reconstructing dozens of parks in neighborhoods across the city with the greatest needs.

Students will receive a wide range of valuable professional experience which will broaden their knowledge of how sustainable best practices can be realistically implemented on a citywide level. Participants will learn about different career paths in the sectors of energy efficiency, renewable systems, waste management, green construction and demolition, environmental science, urban planning, historic preservation, community outreach, teaching and more. The interns will support key organizational goals including:

- Researching sustainable technologies & conducting feasibility studies for our projects.
- Interface internally, with the partners and the public to conduct tours, meetings and future partnership surrounding these projects.
- Retrofit field sites, facilities and partner spaces with successfully piloted technologies.
Examples of Current Openings

Product Sustainability Manager
Columbia Sportswear Company (Portland, OR)

As the Product Sustainability Manager you will serve as the CSC functional expert on product sustainability and will play an integral role in guiding strategy that enables CSC and its portfolio of brands to achieve the CSC Corporate Responsibility priorities. These priorities include: 1) powering business and products with clean energy, 2) improving water sustainability, 3) leveraging innovation & design to create social & environmental value, 4) adoption of green chemistry, and 5) making resources last longer through recycling & closed loop practices.

You will maintain a clear vision for how to progress the organizations’ product sustainability capabilities and serve as a thought partner to product functions. You will also need strong influencing skills, cross-functional leadership and ability to collaborate globally across the organization as well as with industry and multi-stakeholder peers.

Examples of Current Openings

Supply Chain Coordinator (Fresh Produce)
Equal Exchange / Oke USA Fruit Company (West Bridgewater, MA)

Oke USA now operates as the produce importing arm of Equal Exchange, importing fresh bananas, avocados, and banana puree from Latin America.

- Manage complex weekly international and domestic logistics of one of Oke’s fresh produce categories from Latin America to US ripeners and distributors
- Coordinate orders, ocean/truck transportation, customs, logistics, quality control
- Co-manage projections, procurement, and inventory management
- Co-manage customer relations and distribution
- Perform pricing and financial analysis
- Build and maintain relationships with existing customers and accounts; implement grassroots marketing efforts to build store and consumer awareness of brand mission through demos, store visits, social media, print, store staff trainings.

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