**STEM Career:**

**Environmental Engineer**

 Environmental engineers plan projects around their city or state—like municipal water systems, landfills, recycling centers, or sanitation facilities—that are essential to the health of the people who live there. Environmental engineers also work to minimize the impact of human developments, like new roads or dams, on environments and habitats, and they strive to improve the quality of our air, land, and water.

Environmental Engineers:

* Help refineries reduce their toxic gas emissions, which contribute to acid rain and global warming.
* Design a municipal water supply and wastewater treatment system for a growing city.
* Design the structure and irrigation for rooftop gardens, helping reduce building heating and cooling costs.

Environmental engineering requires a B.S. degree in engineering, typically civil, chemical, mechanical, or environmental. You should also consider getting a Masters degree in environmental engineering (more and more employers are giving preference to those who have a Masters degree). You must do your best in the math, science, and engineering courses that comprise any engineering degree. Equally important, you need to focus on the humanities. Since environmental engineering is so intertwined with people, it is necessary that you understand how people and societies function. Through both your formal training and your activities during your college career, you need to work on developing your writing and speaking skills. Environmental engineers must be able to communicate effectively with people of all types if they are to succeed in solving problems. These skills can only be learned by doing --- the more you do, the better you will become.

STEM Career Video: <https://youtu.be/k2epvAUEdCI>