

Plant and Soil Sciences... Now What?

Quick Facts: Plant and Soil Scientists and Specialists	
2020 Median Pay	\$73,040 per year
Entry-Level Education	Graduate school
Work Experience in a Related Occupation	None
On-the-job Training	None
Number of Jobs, 2019	17,800
Job Outlook, 2019-29	7%
Annual Projected Job Openings	1,900

[Found on the Occupational Outlook Handbook and Career Stop]

<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes191013.htm>

<https://www.careeronestop.org/Toolkit/Careers/Occupations/Occupation-profile.aspx?keyword=Soil%20and%20Plant%20Scientists>

What is Plant and Soil Science?

Through theoretical and practical training, the Plant and Soil Sciences major prepares students to tackle real-world problems by integrating and applying knowledge they learn from different disciplines. This major includes rigorous training in biology and laboratory methods. Students focus their study in one of two general areas: plant science or soil science. They may also choose to focus their advanced course work in horticultural science, plant pathology, plant science and biotechnology, soil science or a related discipline. Many successful graduates work in research or applied aspects of the biotech industries, agricultural and horticultural businesses, environmental consulting arenas, and pest management. Others go on for advanced graduate training for careers in academia, business, or the public sector.

What Can I Do With A Degree In Plant and Soil Sciences?

Agronomist	Agronomy Specialist
Crop Nutrition Scientist	Extension Specialist
Microbiology Soil Scientist	On-Site Soil Evaluator
Research Soil Scientist	Soil Fertility Extension Specialist
Soil Scientist	

Where Might I do an Internship?

Bartlett Tree Experts	Conservation Services Group,	MassPIRG
Bioshelters Inc.	Inc. (CGS)	Media Education Foundation
Bose Corp.	Greenpeace, Inc	Nature Conservancy (The)
Bristol-Myers Squibb	Inari Agriculture	Northampton (City of)
Campaign to Save the Environment	JMP Environmental Consulting Inc	Northeast Sustainable Energy Association
CVS	Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife	Raytheon Company

Society for Environment and Human Development (SEHD)
Spectrum Analytical
State of Rhode Island
Department of
Environmental Management
Sustainable UMass
TestAmerica Environmental Services LLC

Triumvirate Environmental
UMass Amherst Waste Management
UMass Amherst Campus Sustainability Initiative
UMass Amherst Dept of Plant, Soil, and Insect Sciences

UMass Amherst
Environmental Health & Safety
UMass Amherst Green Office Program
US Army Corps of Engineers
US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
US Fish & Wildlife Service

Career Planning Resources & Websites

UMass Amherst Career Services Events Calendar
FOCUS2 Career and Education Planning
What Can I Do With This Major?

www.umass.edu/careers

www.umass.edu/careers/planning for sign-in button

<https://www.umass.edu/careers/planning>

(Click on "What Can I do with this Major" icon on the right-hand column.)

Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook
Massachusetts Career Information System

<http://data.bls.gov/search/query>

<http://masscis.intocareers.org>

(Click Mass Resident to login with "Amherst/01003" Then click "Occupations" or "Assessments")

Soil Science Society of America

<https://www.soils.org/careers/>

Bio Careers: Ag-Research

<https://biocareers.com/category/career-paths/ag-research/>

Careers in Soil Science

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov>

Huge List of Environmental Careers

www.khake.com/page46

Reports on Jobs in the Growing Green Economy

www.findingearthworks.org/resources.htm

Riley Guide: Careers in Earth, Water, & Environ Sci

www.rileyguide.com/env.html

Plant and Soil Science Job and Internship Search Resources (* = of particular note)

UMass Amherst Specific Job Search Resources

* UMass Handshake Database of Internships & Jobs

<https://umass.joinhandshake.com/>

* UMass Amherst Dept of Plant & Soil Sciences

<https://www.umass.edu/ses/program/plant-soil-sciences-bs>

* UMass Amherst Local Sustainability Jobs/Internships
Job Seeker Environmental Jobs Newsletter

www.umass.edu/sustainability/resources
www.umass.edu/careers/jobsearch/listings

Plant and Soil Science Jobs

Center for Ecological Technology (Northampton!)

<https://www.cetonline.org/jobs/>

Cool Works Jobs in Great Places

www.coolworks.com

Earthworks Jobs By Category

<http://earthworks-jobs.com/>

Eco Employ

www.ecoemploy.com

Elements (Mineralogy / Geochemistry / Petrology)

<http://elementsmagazine.org/job-postings/>

Environmental Careers Organization (eco.org)

www.eco.org

- * Environmental Career (post resume & apply through) <https://environmentalcareer.com/>
- Environmental Career Opportunities (ECO) <http://www.ecojobs.com/>
- Environmental Health & Safety Jobs <http://ehscareers.com/search>
- Environmental Jobs and Careers (aggregator site) www.ejobs.org
- Environmental Jobs <http://environmentaljobs.com>
- Green Collar Blog: Job Boards and Job Fairs www.ejobs.org/states
- Green Dream Jobs www.sustainablebusiness.com
- * Green Drinks Springfield (hub of local communities) www.facebook.com/GreenDrinksSpringfield
- * Green Jobs (store resumes & apply through site) <http://www.greenjobs.net/>
- Green Job Search www.greenjobsearch.org
- GreenBiz Jobs Board <http://jobs.greenbiz.com>
- Global Vision International Careers Abroad www.careersabroad.co.uk/vacancies
- * LinkedIn Green Job and Career Network www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=77194
- * Local Internships <http://www.gcc.mass.edu/internships/list/>
- * Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (Mass CEC) www.masscec.com/jobs
- * MassCEC Post-Your-Resume Board www.masscec.com/resumes
(Create free account; post resume for employers to see; refresh every 6 months)
- * Massachusetts (State) Environmental Agencies www.mass.gov/eea/agencies
- National Environmental Health Assoc Job Board www.neha.org/job_center.html
- Soil Science Society of America Jobs <https://careers.careerplacement.org/jobseekers/index.cfm>
- Texas A&M Wildlife & Fisheries Jobs Board (some intl) <https://wfscjobs.tamu.edu/job-board/>
- Water Industry Jobs www.waterjobsnow.com
- Water Environment Federation (WEF) Job Bank <http://jobbank.wef.org/jobseekers>
- World Wildlife Federation Jobs http://www.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs_wwf/
- * USDA Natural Resources Conservation (by State) www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs
- * US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Jobs www.epa.gov/careers
- * USA Jobs (for ALL Federal Govt Jobs) www.usajobs.gov

General Science Jobs

- General Science Jobs (widely defined) <http://jobs.sciencecareers.org>
- General Science Jobs (widely defined) <http://jobs.newscientist.com/>
- NatureJobs (widely defined) www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/

Internships and Lab/Field Research

- * CareerConnect Database of Internships & Jobs www.umass.edu/careers for sign-in button
- * UMass Biochem: Finding Independent Lab Research www.umass.edu/biochem/undergraduate/lab
- American Geological Institute (Geosci & Public Policy) www.americangeosciences.org
- Campus Access List of Environmental Internships www.campusaccess.com/internships
- Cool Works Internships www.coolworks.com/internships
- Ecological Society of America: Fieldwork Internships <https://www.esacareercenter.org/>
- Internships in Federal Government Agencies (EPA etc) www.usajobs.gov/Search?Internship=Yes
- * MassCEC Map of Clean Energy Internship Sites <http://masscec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Viewer>
- MassCEC Paid Internships Program <http://www.masscec.com/work-clean-energy/job-seeker/internship-program>

MassCEC Resume Board

<http://www.masscec.com/work-clean-energy/resumes>

* Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC)

www.masscec.com/programs/massachusetts

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

www.training.nih.gov/programs

National Park Service Internships (nationwide)

<https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/workwithus.htm>

NYC Parks and Recreation Internships

<https://www.nycgovparks.org/>

Professional Organizations (* = of particular note)

Many professional organization's websites have career information on them. You can often use them to search for networking events, meet a mentor in your field of study, find current research, search for internships or jobs, and gain insight into what direction within the field you may wish to pursue.

American Geological Institute (Geosci & Public Policy)

www.americangeosciences.org

American Water Works Association

www.awwa.org

Assoc for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Ed

www.aashe.org/resources

Assoc for Environmental Studies and Sciences

<http://aessonline.org/>

Ecological Society of America: Fieldwork Internships

www.esa.org

Local Govt Environmental Assistance Network

www.lgean.org (has grants & funding opps)

National Council for Science and the Environment

www.ncseonline.org

National Environmental Health Association

www.neha.org

Natl Assoc for Environmental Professionals (NAEP)

www.naep.org

National Renewable Energy Lab

www.nrel.gov

N. American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners

www.nabcep.org

* Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (Greenfield)

www.nesea.org

Society for Conservation Biology

www.conbio.org

Society of Wetland Scientists

<http://sws.org>

US Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov

US National Institutes of Health (NIH)

www.nih.gov

US NIH: Natl Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

www.niehs.nih.gov/index.cfm

* Western Mass Green Consortium

<http://westernmassgreenconsortium.org>