

Earth Day 2012



Career Profile

Name: Jim Yoder
Job Title: Lab Quality Assurance and Safety Manager
Location: Bureau of Laboratories
Years with DEP: 33

What kinds of activities do you perform on a daily basis?

I do a lot of administrative and technical activities. More specifically, I answer written and verbal questions about lab quality assurance and lab safety requirements, policies, procedures and regulations.

What kind of educational background do you have?

I have a bachelor's degree in biological sciences.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

The most challenging part is dealing with the quantity of work and taking responsibility for many details.

What got you interested in working in an environmental field?

I like technical work.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

The most rewarding aspect of my job is the ripple effect I can have. The things I do as the lab's quality assurance manager have an impact on the quality of the work done by most of our chemists and microbiologists, which has an impact on the quality of the data they produce (environmental sample test results), which is then used to make significant public health and environmental decisions.

What advice do you have for someone thinking about a career in environmental science?

It is a respectable field; definitely consider it as a possibility.