

Earth Day 2012



Career Profile

Name: Martina McGarvey
Job Title: Laboratory Director
Location: Bureau of Laboratories
Years with DEP: 24

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

I take care of personnel management, budget review, technical oversight, laboratory operations oversight, laboratory administrative oversight, resource allocation, research for future laboratory projects, customer service for environmental programs, and problem solving for all client and laboratory areas.

What kind of educational background do you have?

I have a bachelor's and master's degree in chemistry and doctorate in management.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

It is challenging to have the flexibility to address problem solving for most areas in the environmental laboratory which include personnel management, resource management, budgetary needs, and securing funding and resources for future laboratory needs.

What got you interested in working in an environmental field?

I had an initial interest in science, laboratory work and environmental protection. I later developed an interest in leadership, management and organizational development.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

The most rewarding part of my job is successfully overcoming challenges to meet public and environmental program needs to protect public health and the environment based on quality analytical data.

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

You should focus on an environmental science/chemistry education and research sources for learning more about environmental science including internships and job shadowing.