

EECO Career Fair – Environmental Professionals

Friday, April 16th 11:30am-12:30pm



Jenny Adkins is a Professional Wetland Scientist and Lead Botanist at MAD Scientist Associates, an ecological and wetland consulting firm in Westerville. She comes from Miami County, where she got her start in natural resources at the Miami County Park District and Five Rivers MetroParks. She has a BS in Biology and a Masters of Education from Wright State University. Jenny is also the Secretary for the Environmental Education Council of Ohio Board of Directors.



Rachel Easter is Water Instrumentation Specialist for the City of Dayton
Rachel was born and raised in Dayton, OH. Growing up she always had a love for science. During high school, Rachel attended Sinclair Community College and then went on to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Forensic Science and Chemistry at Trine University. She is now a Water Instrumentation Specialist, for the Division of Water Supply and Treatment at the City of Dayton. Rachel has been with the city for seven years and is married with two dogs.



Jenny Richards, Naturalist for Shawnee State Park

Jenny grew up on the edge of Shawnee Forest exploring the outdoors with her family. She obtained her BS in Geography from Ohio University, traveled and worked abroad and returned home to land her dream job 23 years ago as a state park naturalist in the very forest she was raised. She loves sharing her passion for the great outdoors with everyone she meets.



Greg Orr is an Environmental Scientist for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA). As an aquatic ecologist, Greg. Assist in the planning, design, and implementation of water quality surveys to support surface water programs, other government agencies, consultant firms and the general public. Greg collects comprehensive data (i.e. water and sediment chemistry, habitat evaluations, fish, salamander and benthic macroinvertebrate communities, etc.) and uses it to prepare detailed evaluations of the quality of the state's surface waters (i.e. streams, rivers, lakes), as well as develop limits for various discharge permits. Greg also volunteers as a wildlife biologist/naturalist for three Metropark districts and an arboretum. Some of his volunteer responsibilities include leading nature hikes and

educational programs/presentations to park visitors. He also conducts research on flora and fauna that will aid in the management of wildlife. He also helps rehabilitate injured and/or orphaned wildlife. Greg is also fortunate to share his passion for aquatic ecology by teaching a class at Kent State University.



Megan Shortridge is a biologist working as a drinking water inspector for Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) out of the Dayton office (Southwest District Office). She inspects community drinking water systems, which range in size from mobile home parks and nursing homes to the cities of Wilmington and Springfield. She is also active in American Water Works Association (AWWA) Young Professionals in the southwest Ohio area. Megan went to Ohio State as an undergraduate, and has a master's degree in biology from Bowling Green State University. Megan has had a variety of interesting career experiences she would love to tell stories about. Here are a few of them: 1) extracting DNA from fish gut contents to identify

what they ate, 2) processing water samples in Southern Ohio for environmental DNA to help detect invasive Asian carp species 3) contracting for US EPA in Florida to raise zebrafish for toxicology experiments 4) interning at the Toledo Zoo Aquarium 5) collecting water quality samples in Northwestern Ohio off of bridges and on a boat in Lake Erie.



My name is Mark Shappie and I live in Russia, Ohio with my wife of 20 years and 4 children, with my wife expecting our 5th child in October. I graduated from Russia High School in 1997. During high school I went to the Upper Valley Career Center in Electrical Trades. After High school I worked for an electrical contractor. In 2003 I started my own electrical business and ran that for two years. In the summer of 2005, I started for the Village of Russia. When I hired on with the Village, I was just a maintenance worker. I cut grass, did maintenance on equipment, and started getting involved in the operation and maintenance at our WWTP. In 2007 after spending time at the WWTP I was able to obtain my WWTP 1 license. In 2010 the Village installed a new complete water system throughout the town and I was able to get my water 1 license. Since then I have been promoted to the Village Administrator and I currently am still in that position. I am currently the operator of record for both the water and wastewater plants.



Kendall Hauer- Director, Karl E. Limper Geology Museum and Co-Departmental Academic Advisor; Department of Geology and Environmental Earth Science at Miami University

I obtained my B.S. in Geology from S.U.N.Y. Plattsburgh in 1988 and my Ph.D. from Miami University in 1995, specializing in geochemistry. After that, I spent 7 years working for an environmental consulting firm in Cincinnati. During this time, I managed numerous projects involving the characterization and cleanup of soil and groundwater contamination, and specialized in the assessment and enhancement of the biodegradation of organic contaminants in groundwater. Since 2002, I have been the director of the Karl E. Limper Geology Museum at Miami University. My duties in this position include designing and building museum displays, community outreach, and teaching introductory to upper level geology courses, including historical geology. With the recent renovation of the Limper Museum, I have been very busy working to create an entirely new set of displays for the entire museum.



Adam Regula is currently an Agriculture and Natural Resource Extension Educator for Central State University serving Northeast Ohio. His background is in forestry, but his path to the field was somewhat unconventional. He studied geography as an undergraduate at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia and earned an M.A. in Geography from the University of Wyoming before attending West Virginia University, where he earned an M.S. in Forestry researching oak forests. He then volunteered as an Agroforestry Extension Educator with the U.S. Peace Corps, where he spent two years living and working in a rural community in Senegal, West Africa. After returning to the United States he worked as a private consulting forester in the Adirondack region of New York state before moving

back to his home state of Ohio where he began working for the Ohio Division of Forestry. Here he helped to manage state forestlands, conducted outreach to private woodland owners, and worked with rural fire departments on wildland fire suppression. In his current position, his focus is to help improve the lives of historically underserved and underrepresented populations in both rural and urban communities by extending agriculture and natural resource management practices.