

# Graduates



**Chris Stanley**, a graduate of MECC's Environmental Science, Forestry, is a *Mineral Specialist/ Ecologist* at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy.

**Teresa Flanary**, a graduate of MECC's Environmental Science, Forestry, and Landscape Gardening Programs, is a *Watershed Field Coordinator* for the Virginia Department of Conservation.



## You will find other MECC graduates at:

USDA Forest Service  
Pine Mountain Lumber  
Gilbert NS Lumber  
Cumberland Natl. Park

Va. Dept. of Forestry  
Mullican Lumber & Mfg.  
Natural Tunnel State Park  
DMME

Natural Tunnel Soil & Water Conservation  
District Federal & State Depts. of Conservation Recreation  
Treatment Plants: Clintwood, Coeburn, Pound,  
Appalachia, Big Stone Gap, Pennington Gap, Jonesville,  
Abingdon, and Blountville

## Forest Science Environmental Science Water/Wastewater



### Contact MECC's Faculty:

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**Mountain Empire  
Community College**

3441 Mountain Empire Road  
Big Stone Gap, VA 24219  
276-523-2400 • [www.mecc.edu](http://www.mecc.edu)

## Environmental Science & Forest Science



## Get Started with a Certificate

Graduates of MECC's Environmental and Forest Science programs receive Associate in Applied Science degrees.

### Employers want personnel who:

- Possess skills in laboratory procedures
- Possess professional ethics and integrity
- Possess good communication skills
- Possess a team-player attitude

### Forestry Personnel

work in all phases of forest science — monitoring and protecting forest areas, harvesting timber, and producing primary and secondary wood products.

### Environmental Scientists

work in all phases of reclamation, from data gathering and surface mine permitting through environmental monitoring during active mining operation, and reclamation for post-mining use.

### Water/Wastewater Personnel

work in municipal and industrial water treatment facilities that provide purification of water for human consumption and protection of water resources.

## Certification

Graduates of MECC's Water/Wastewater program are prepared to take the state certification exam for water or wastewater operator's license upon completion of six months experience within a treatment plant.



## Intern & Apprenticeships

Students acquire on-the-job training through internships and apprenticeships with local agencies.

## Employment Outlook

Forest Science students are prepared for employment as forest technicians, lumber graders, timber cruisers, and other technical positions within the forestry and timber industries.

Environmental Science students are prepared for employment as natural resources specialists, land reclamationists, agronomists, extension agents, soil conservationists, and analytical laboratory assistants.

Water/Wastewater students are prepared for entry-level employment in water and sewage treatment plants.

## Advancement

With advanced studies and experience –

- Forest Science graduates can advance to positions such as logging foreman, forester, agriculturalist, or lab technologist
- Environmental Science graduates can advance to positions such as reclamation foreman, forester, soil conservation specialist, agriculturalist, or lab technologist
- Water/Wastewater graduates can advance to positions such as water and wastewater operators, site managers, plant supervisors

## Professional Organizations

Northwest Partnership for Env. & Tech. Ed.  
North American Assoc. for Env. Education  
Advanced Technology Env. Ed. Center  
Virginia Forestry Association  
Rural Water Association & Tech. Ed.  
North American Assoc. for Env. Education  
Advanced Technology Env. Ed. Center  
Virginia Forestry Association  
Rural Water Association

## Salary

Salaries range between \$30,000 - \$50,000, depending upon the position, public or private employment, and job location.

