



## **Environmental Science and Engineering Scholarships Awarded in 2014**

The Ohio Environmental Education Fund provided environmental science and engineering scholarships to 20 university students in 2014 to encourage them to complete their degrees and enter professional practice in Ohio. The program is administered through a partnership between Ohio EPA and the Ohio Academy of Science.

According to Ohio EPA Director Craig Butler, “These awards encourage students to consider careers in environmental science and engineering. These fields not only offer many job opportunities, but are critical for training in advanced environmental technologies, advancing Ohio’s technical expertise and building Ohio’s future economy.”

Eighteen students in four-year programs who received a \$2,500 scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year include:

- Hunter Ardrey, Ohio State University (Environmental Science), Granville
- Morgan Bauer, University of Findlay (Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Management), Fremont
- Hannah Baumann, Ashland University (Toxicology), Bellville
- Alison Biro, Ashland University (Toxicology), Clinton
- Anthony Dixon, University of Toledo (Environmental Science), Dundee, MI
- Jessica Ezzie, University of Toledo (Civil Engineering), Copley
- Kristin Garr, Case Western Reserve University (Environmental Studies /Medical Anthropology), Rochester Hills, MI
- Jarod Gregory, University of Cincinnati (Chemical/Environmental Engineering), Cincinnati
- Zachary Hawke, University of Cincinnati (Civil Engineering), DeGraff
- Eve Hochhauser, Ohio State University (Environmental Engineering), Oceanside, NY
- Rima Jurjus, Denison University (Environmental Studies), Shaker Heights
- Aaron Leow, University of Cincinnati (Civil/Environmental Engineering), Maumee

- Jessica Lindner, Ohio University (Environmental and Plant Biology), Cincinnati
- Elisabeth Martin, University of Cincinnati (Civil/Environmental Engineering), Upper Arlington
- Tyler Sebree, Ohio State University (Atmospheric Sciences), Cincinnati
- Rosalie Sepesy, Ashland University (Environmental Science/Biology), Austintown
- Derek Smith, Bowling Green State University (Aquatic Biology), Toledo
- Alex Sofranko, Ohio State University (Environmental Engineering), Austintown

Two students in two-year programs received a \$1,250 scholarship for the 2014-2015 academic year:

- Anthony Smoktonowicz, Owens Community College (Environmental Health and Safety Technology), Perrysburg
- Ryan Smeltz, Stark State College (Environmental Health and Safety), Akron

This year's student recipients have research and work experience in areas such as:

- Petroleum contaminated soils site assessments
- Toxicity of saline deicing brines to aquatic life
- Lake Erie offshore wind energy potential
- Membrane bioreactors and the efficacy of carbon water purification
- Ice cover impact on phytoplankton and algal blooms in the Great Lakes
- Macroinvertebrate populations in streams degraded by acid mine drainage
- Effectiveness of constructed wetlands in keeping pharmaceutical and personal care products from entering rivers and streams
- Ultrasonic wave treatment to remove pharmaceuticals and other pollutants from drinking water supplies
- Small pond ecology and wetland zooplankton population diversity
- Building robotic systems to detect methane leaks in closed landfills
- Effects of coal additives on mercury migration in ground water
- Making biodiesel from yellow trap grease in food operations
- Constructing a fish lifting system in a dam

Students are selected to receive scholarships based on an academic record with at least an overall GPA of 3.0; original research, scholarship, employment, volunteering, or other unique contributions to environmental science or environmental engineering; activity in non-athletic extra-curricular activities and organizations; ability to communicate; recommendations from education and environmental professionals; and a major in environmental science or environmental engineering.

Since the program began in 2000, \$691,200 in scholarships have been awarded statewide to 282 students at 48 Ohio colleges and universities.

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