



# Down the Trail...

Environmental Studies alumni do amazing things.

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@shepherdenvironment

- What are you doing now?

I am the laboratory manager at the Freshwater Institute, and I'm enrolled in the Environmental Biology master's program at Hood College. I'm about to start my thesis research on the toxicity of a new recirculating aquaculture system (RAS) disinfectant.

- How did your Shepherd experience prepare you for post-graduate success?

The labs that corresponded to my environmental science, chemistry and biology classes prepared me for a professional laboratory setting.

- What do you know now that you wish you had known as an undergraduate?

Memorizing formulas, chemical structures and definitions may get you an A on an exam, but being able to apply that knowledge in a variety of real world situations is what actually matters. Truly understanding concepts and their application is what's important. Absorb as much information as you can from the experts you're around every day by asking questions that go beyond what is expected of you on exams, quizzes etc.

- What is your best memory from your time as an environmental studies major at Shepherd?

Dr. Vila's field trips!