What is a Green Job?

Green jobs benefit, preserve, or restore the environment or its natural resources. They can be in traditional or in new fields. This is an expanding sector of the economy, and one we need to continue to grow in order to ensure a healthy and prosperous future for all.

Learn more:
https://www.baltimoresustainability.org/children-and-nature/

What does a green job look like in Baltimore?

Baltimore’s green jobs cover many fields, including environmental planning and engineering, water resources management, landscaping, horticulture, tree planting and care, agriculture, composting, renewable energy, energy efficiency, cleanup, environmental education, sustainable manufacturing and recycling, and deconstruction and reuse of building materials.
How can I get green jobs training?

Civic Works’ Center for Sustainable Careers trains unemployed and underemployed Baltimore City residents 18 years or older in retrofitting homes for energy efficiency, solar energy installation, and utility infrastructure installation and repair. Participants earn industry-recognized certifications and receive job placement assistance upon successful completion of the program.

Baltimore Tree Trust recruits, trains, mentors, and connects Baltimore City residents 18 years or older to careers in the tree care and landscaping industries. Neighborhood Foresters receive on-the-job training and industry-recognized certifications in addition to a wide range of educational and professional development opportunities.

The Parks & People Foundation’s Branches Program is an after-school internship and summer employment program for Baltimore City high school students. Participants explore green careers, improve public parks, build green spaces, enjoy outdoor recreation, and conduct environmental science, all while developing essential life skills and job-readiness skills that can be applied to any career field.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources’ Natural Resources Careers Camp is a week-long camp for high schoolers to explore careers and college studies in natural resources. While the camp is held in Garrett County, the Baltimore City Forestry Board sponsors local students to attend.

The Baltimore City Department of Public Works’ YH20 Career Mentoring Program prepares young adults to be employed in full-time jobs within the water industry at the completion of the program. This 6-month training program is open to Baltimore City residents ages 18-24 who have a high school diploma or GED, are unemployed or underemployed, and are not currently enrolled in a job training program or post-secondary education.

The University of Maryland Extension-Baltimore City’s 4-H Program teaches participants ages 5-18 practical life skills through leadership and citizenship training, nutrition education, entrepreneurship and workforce development, service-learning, STEM, gardening, and more, all with a hands-on, discovery-based learning approach.

The Maryland Conservation Job Corps partners with community organizations to provide opportunities for youth to help conserve natural resources in Maryland State Parks. It is a 6-week, non-residential, paid summer program for youth ages 14-17 and includes opportunities for recreation, learning, leadership development, and breakfast, lunch, and snacks each day.

The Maryland Conservation Careers Guide is a new state resource that will walk you through why to choose a career in conservation, how to find the right fit for you, where to learn the skills you’ll need, and how to apply for jobs. It includes many specifics such as how to get experience in the field, connections to professional organizations, and case studies of current professionals in the field.
Additional Resources

Jobs Boards and Opportunities
Chesapeake Network Youth Jobs Portal: a virtual group for youth and young professionals considering environmental careers
Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) job hub
AmeriCorps

US Department of Agriculture (USDA)
USDA Internships and Career Opportunities
USDA Ag Discovery program
USDA HBCU scholarships: USDA provides a full-ride to study green fields at select Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
Earth Team Volunteers

Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC)
CCBC's American Landscape Institute: Employs students, pays for 80% of tuition
CCBC's Environmental Science program
CCBC's Veterinary-Technology program
CCBC's Sustainable Horticulture program

University of Maryland (UMD)
UMD Institute of Applied Agriculture
Information on Careers in Agriculture

Middle Schoolers
Ag Explorer
Max Careers: answer questions and get a career suggestion
Start looking at courses you might be interested in taking in high school

Additional Information
Prince George's County Agriculture Students speak about their experiences
Information on Environmental Engineering Technicians

Other Local Organizations & Opportunities
The Farm Alliance of Baltimore
YouthWorks: summer youth employment opportunities
Gotham Greens
Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation