

Who we are:

The Department of Environment and Conservation exists to enhance the quality of life for citizens of Tennessee and to be stewards of our natural environment.

Our Department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environment that goes hand-in-hand with economic prosperity and increased quality of life in Tennessee. We deliver on our mission through managing regulatory programs that maintain standards for air, water and soil quality while providing assistance to businesses and communities in areas ranging from recreation to waste management. We manage the state park system and programs to inventory, interpret and protect Tennessee's rich natural, historical, and archaeological heritage.

About the Office of External Affairs:

The Office of External Affairs serves as the primary point of contact for external stakeholders for environmental concerns across the state, through their eight regions. Regional Directors actively work with local and state officials, business and industry, the general public, community development representatives, and environmental groups. The team also serves as key representatives for coordinating and facilitating public meetings, regulatory hearings, information sessions, and community engagement opportunities to ensure TDEC is inclusive while meeting its mission.



TDEC Regional Director of External Affairs Cookeville Environmental Field Office Annual Salary Range: \$69,588 – \$125,232

The Regional Director of the Office of External Affairs (OEA) is an outstanding leadership position which serves as a public outreach arm of the Commissioner's Office and as a primary TDEC point of contact for the general public, business, state and local government officials and external stakeholders in Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, Dekalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren, and White counties. If you are interested in an exciting opportunity to collaborate with all divisions of TDEC and promote environmental stewardship in East Tennessee, this opportunity could be an outstanding career move for you.

We are seeking candidates with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science, Communications, Journalism, Public Affairs, or related fields, and have successful experience working with a diverse customer base. The preferred candidate will be able to easily navigate and develop relationships with all levels of management, citizens, and stakeholders both internally and externally. Based at TDEC's Cookeville Environmental Field Office located in Cookeville, TN, TDEC employees are currently working in alternative workspaces from their home with the flexibility to work in their assigned office. Visit www.tn.gov/careers to apply for this position.

Highlighted Responsibilities:

- Coordinate or facilitate TDEC hearings, meetings, and outreach activities for TDEC's Bureau of Environment and Parks and Conservation in the region. Meetings could include regulatory hearings, information sessions with local officials, chambers, rotaries, etc. to communicate opportunities to participate in a variety of TDEC programs.
- Develop strong relationships with local governments and organizations within each state park county. Share with external stakeholders park updates and opportunities to attend park events.
- Provide weekly reports to the Director of Stakeholder Services and highlight potential assigned county issues developing that could impact TDEC and should be conveyed to the Commissioner's Office.
- Collaborate with other Regional Directors and attend OEA staff meetings.
- Work closely with our Communication and Legislative offices to ensure consistent communications to all external stakeholders.
- Perform media interviews in assigned region as requested by the TDEC Communications Office.

Pursuant to the State of Tennessee's Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State's policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person's race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.