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.

We foster a work environment that’s inclusive as well as diverse, where our people can be themselves. Every idea and perspective is valued so that our culture reflects the people we serve.

Our department is committed to providing a cleaner, safer environmental 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.

Air Pollution Control:

The Division implements the Tennessee Air Quality Act and delegated programs of the federal Clean Air Act, working to maintain the purity of Tennessee’s air resources consistent with the protection of human health, general welfare and physical property of the people, maximum employment, and the full industrial development of the state. The Division serves 91 counties within Tennessee and oversees local air programs in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, and Shelby counties. The Division operates an ambient monitoring network, provides air quality forecasting, establishes emission standards and procedural requirements for industries through the issuance of construction and operating permits, and ensures compliance by inspecting facilities and verifying compliance with issued permits or pursuing enforcement to ensure the facility returns to compliance in a timely manner.

TDEC Environmental Protection Specialist 1
Division of Air Pollution Control
Knoxville Environmental Field Office
Annual Salary Range: $40,380 – $64,620

Interested in protecting our environment, public health, and air quality? The Division of Air Pollution Control has a position in our Knoxville, TN Environmental Field Office (EFO). The selected candidate will work with the Chemicals, Food, and Wood Products Sector of the Permitting Program in a collaborative and diverse team environment, with other permitting and EFO staff, as well as directly with our regulated community. The position is responsible for drafting construction and operating permits for sources of air pollution, database entry, and initiating enforcement action against sources that fail to comply with the air pollution control regulations. Currently, TDEC employees are working in alternative workspaces from their home with the flexibility to have scheduled time in their assigned office.

Preferred candidates will have a bachelor’s or master’s degree in engineering (chemical engineering preferred) and a general understanding of federal and state regulations. Successful candidates should be prepared to work both independently and collaboratively to accomplish tasks, write and communicate clearly and concisely, and establish partnerships with internal customers and external stakeholders. The position requires valid driver’s license and may requirement overnight travel. To apply for this position: https://www.tn.gov/careers.

Highlighted Responsibilities:

- Review stationary source applications for permit applicability
- Review applicable federal and state regulations and apply to permit as appropriate
- Draft construction and operating permits for stationary sources of air pollution at industrial entities, private businesses, and state entities
- Review and evaluate Maximum Achievable Control Technology standards for stationary sources
- Maintain a comprehensive database system
- Work cooperatively and effectively with management, other division employees, and the public to issue accurate and enforceable permits
- Meet critical deadlines and follow-up on assignments with a minimum amount of direction

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.