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 Division of Mineral and Geologic Resources (DMGR):

DMGR, through TDEC, is responsible for ensuring the environmentally sound management, protection and documentation of the state's mineral, land and energy resources for all Tennesseans and future generations. The division is responsible for the permitting, inspection, compliance and enforcement of mineral extraction activities for both fuel and non-fuel minerals; the reclamation of abandoned coal mines left unreclaimed prior to the enactment of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (SMCRA) and where there is no responsible party; and the Tennessee Geological Survey (TGS), which conducts geologic hazards research, public service and education programs, and basic and applied research on geology and mineral resources.

TN Department of Environment & Conservation

TDEC Environmental Scientist 2
Division of Mineral and Geologic Resources
Regional Position Located in West Tennessee
Annual Salary Range: $49,176 – $73,920

Looking for an opportunity to work with a collaborative team at the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC)? The Division of Mineral & Geologic Resources is hiring a regional field inspector working to conduct National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)/Surface Mining inspections for mining facilities and perform related regulatory water-quality work. This position covers a multi-county area located within the West Tennessee Grand Region and is primarily home-based with an assigned vehicle.

The role requires conducting inspections at least two to three days per week, often hiking on uneven terrain and operating 4-wheel drive vehicles or All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs). Candidates must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college/university in environmental science or related degree plus one year of full-time professional experience in regulatory, environmental or natural resource conservation. Additionally, a valid driver's license is required. Candidates must meet the minimum qualifications (MQs) for this position. For MQs and how to apply, please visit: http://www.tn.gov/careers.

Highlighted Responsibilities:

- Conduct inspections within assigned region of mining facilities, including mines, quarries, and processing areas, and prepare inspection reports.
- Investigate all assigned complaints and report violations.
- Conduct hydrologic determinations of water features.
- Conduct outreach events including educational programs and public hearings.
- Review applications for and write draft and final NPDES, Surface Mine, and Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit (ARAP) permits as assigned.

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.