

FOREST ECOSYSTEMS, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Career Paths

Graduates become forest managers responsible for the flora and fauna on publicly owned forests and watersheds, including national and state forests and parks, game lands, and recreation areas. Others work as ecologists studying environmental factors that affect forests, or as consultants surveying timberlands and recommending harvest and reforestation practices. Graduates also work as community foresters managing urban trees and green spaces, consulting foresters assisting private landowners, industrial foresters ensuring a company's need for raw materials, land managers for conservation organizations, and watershed managers responsible for the protection of municipal watersheds. The curriculum also provides a firm base for graduate study.

Careers

Graduates of the Forest Management and Biodiversity and Conservation options may be employed by public agencies such as the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service, nonprofit organizations such as The Nature Conservancy, industries such as sawmills and bioenergy facilities, and environmental consulting firms. Graduates of the Forests, Trees, and People option may be employed by municipalities, arboricultural companies, utilities, and government agencies to manage community trees and green spaces. Graduates of the Watershed Ecohydrology option may find federal employment as hydrologists or pursue careers in municipal watershed management and in environmental/engineering consulting.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE FOREST ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAM (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu/undergraduate/resources/alumni-profiles/forest-ecosystem-management>)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu/graduate/forest-resources>)

Professional Resources

- Society of American Foresters (<https://www.eforester.org>)