Fields within the environmental industry are generally divided up into the categories below. Here are a few ideas to get you started thinking about how you can be part of the solution!

**Environment Protection**
*Fields:* Teaching, Parks & Recreation, Meteorology, Economics, Biotechnology, Fisheries, Media, Coastal Management, Soil Conservation, Geography
*Positions:* Park Ranger, Ecologist, Zoologist, Botanist, Marine Biologist, Environmental Scientist, Education Officer, Landcare Specialist, Environmental Journalist.

**Environmental Research**
*Fields:* Meteorology, Economics, Geological Exploration, Fisheries, Biotechnology, Museum Studies, Chemistry, Metallurgy, Physics

**Environmental Design**
*Fields:* Architecture, Town Planning, Engineering (Mining, Industrial, Chemical, Electrical), Building, Manufacturing, Industrial Design
*Positions:* Landscape Architect, Exhibition Designer.

**Environmental Management**
*Fields:* Town Planning, Farming, Engineering (Mining, Industrial, Chemical), Parks & Recreation, Economics, Horticulture, Mining, Fisheries, Agricultural Economics, Manufacturing, Plant Nurseries, Government, Coastal Management, Soil Conservation, Geography
*Positions:* Forester, Environmental Lawyer, Scientist, Manager.

**Environmental Education**
*Fields:* Tourism, Teaching, Parks & Recreation, Museum Studies, Media, Cultural Heritage
*Positions:* Park Ranger, Education Officer, Environmental Journalist, Curator, Exhibition Designer, Council Waste Educator, Writer, Editor, Public Relations.

**Environmental Production**
*Fields:* Mining, Farming, Winemaking, Horticulture, Fisheries, Geological Exploration, Manufacturing
*Positions:* Pest Controller, Landcare Specialist, Plant Nurseries, Forester, Greenkeeper.

Where to get more information...
There are many organisations, agencies and businesses with an environmental focus where you can get more information about your dream career. Just a few of these are:

- Australian Conservation Foundation • CERES • Environment Victoria • Friends of the Earth • Greening Australia • Greenpeace • Sustainable Living Foundation • Country Fire Association • CSIRO • Department of Sustainability and Environment • Environmental Protection Authority • Going Solar • Gould League • Parks Victoria

As well as these, you can also approach environmental consultants, energy & water conservation companies, solar power companies and many more. See www.environmentaljobs.com.au/links for more information.
There are many entry points to your dream environmental career, just as there are many ways to develop it. These can include voluntary work, getting involved with community groups, attending events and networking.

We interviewed some environmental professionals about how they developed their career. These are just a few of the results...

**Environmental Engineer**

**Role and tasks:** Environmental consultant role, mostly in environmental management. This involves auditing, construction supervision, and the development of Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Management Systems and environmental management plans.

**Qualifications and experience:** Bachelor of Engineering (Environmental), but firstly industrial training with Hunter Water got me a job with Sydney Water. Experience and contacts at Sydney Water got me a job at Hyder Consulting.

**What do you look for in job seekers?** Maturity, personality, intelligence, at least some work experience, relevance of degree or other training.

**What is your advice for job seekers?** Present yourself well, and be willing and able to learn from others and to work with others in environmental management.

Keep up networks, keep up to date with your particular field of interest, and be willing to take short term jobs as experience. Always stay positive!

**Environmental Monitoring Scientist**

**Key duties:** Develop monitoring programs for Parks Victoria. Improve integration of conservation objectives, management actions and monitoring outcomes of those actions.

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Science – University of Melbourne; Master of Science (Ecology and Management).

**Volunteer work:** Field Assistant – Possum tracking, birds of prey, seagrass mapping. Turtle and Fisheries management: Centro Ecologico Akumal, Oaxaca and Guymas.

**Previous experience:** Beach Report Coordinator – EPA; Victoria Seagrass Watch Coordinator, DPI Queensland; Marine Scientist – EPA Victoria.

**Which industries do graduates from your background tend to end up in?** Government departments – science agencies, consultancies, water or land management authorities.

**Why did you choose a career in an environmental field?** Just a love of the environment, a desire to have a positive impact on society, and a role where you can combine fieldwork and deskwork.

**Environmental Chemist**

**Key duties:** Manage water treatment business. Provide advice to clients on water quality issues.

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Science (Hons), Earth Sciences; PhD, Earth Sciences.

**Graduate programs:** Research Associate – Centre for Green Chemistry, Monash University; Hon. Research Associate – School of Geoscience, Monash University.

**Vacation work:** Chemist with Hoechst Australia – Polymer Chemistry.

**Previous experience:** CSIRO Exploration and Mining – 5 years – Research Scientist; Mine Geologist – KiaOra Gold WA; Exploration Geologist – PNC Exploration; Geologist – BHP Minerals.

**Which industries do graduates from your background tend to end up in?** Mining and exploration.

**Why did you choose a career in an environmental field?** The opportunity to cross from the mining and exploration sector to the growth sector of the environment provided for an interesting change in career path.