

Alum Spotlight

Department of Environmental Sciences



Joel F. Banaszak, PG: M.S. in Geology (2011)

Thesis: “Hydrostatic Framework of the Shallow Water Aquifer, Indian River Bay, Delaware”

Joel Banaszak attended UT to complete his M.S. in Geology under the supervision of Dr. David Krantz. He came to UT with a B.S. in Geology from Edinboro University (PA) plus professional experience as a staff scientist for Seismic Surveys, Inc. There he installed and operated seismographs, supervised demolition and construction activities, and conducted residential water quality sampling.

While at UT, Joel worked as a research assistant for Dr. Krantz, and conducted geological surveys using ground-penetrating radar, electrical resistivity, reflection seismics, and refraction seismics. Joel’s research thesis used seismic surveys to map four hydrostratigraphic units within Indian River Bay and identify ancient shorelines.



After graduating, Joel worked as a hydrogeologic field technician overseeing monitoring well installations, conducted contaminant data analysis, and reported on regulatory compliance. He currently works as a professional geologist III for Amec Foster Wheeler with a concentration in characterization and remediation of groundwater and soil impacted by industrial manufacturing processes. Joel’s career has taken him across the U.S. overseeing environmental drilling activities. He also recently traveled to Poland in support of a potable water well supply project.

“If I had to give one piece of advice to a current student it would be to train yourself to be solution-oriented and curious about the world in front of you”