

Caroline Beck

B.S. Ecology and Organismal Biology (2016)

Caroline ('Carly') Beck is from Monclova, Ohio. Her decision to enroll at the University of Toledo came easy. UT has one of the best developed environmental science programs available, it is very affordable and the supporting faculty are deeply connected to local organizations and park systems. Additionally, the UT campus is very diverse with many student organizations and activities allowing for a well-rounded college experience.



While attending UT, Carly wasted no time to pursue the Honors option in the Department of Environmental Sciences. In her freshman year, she began working with Dr. Todd Crail. The goal of her work was to translate research from the Oak Openings Region into a more “easy-to-understand” format to be used by the Oak Openings Green Ribbon Initiative (GRI). The mission of the GRI is to preserve, enhance and restore critical natural areas in the Oak Openings Region. Carly also gave technical presentations on the reintroduction of the orange-fringed orchid at the annual Oak Openings Research Forum. She completed and presented her senior thesis titled “Analyzing General Ecology Laboratory Data for Management Implications” where she studied year-to-year precision of student collected data in the Oak Openings Region to determine the validity of field methods and possible land management implications.

Carly Beck graduated *summa cum laude* in May of 2016 with a B.S. in Ecology and Organismal Biology with both departmental and college honors. She also served as the Sustainability Intern and student manager for UT’s Green Fund and participated in a C.D.C. internship in Atlanta where her research earned her the ‘best overall scientific presentation’ award. She was selected as the most outstanding graduating senior in the entire College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Indeed, Carly has lots of options following her degree and academic achievements. Recently, she accepted a position as a research technician at Satelitics, a corporation that is part of UT’s LaunchPad Incubator. Carly looks forward to this challenging opportunity and possibly use it as a springboard to a graduate program in a few years

“Throughout much of my undergraduate time, I stressed myself out to find out “exactly what I wanted to do” after graduation or with my life in general. If you ever get these feelings, trust me, you are not alone, and many other college-aged people are feeling the same way! My advice would be to simply take advantage of all the opportunities that are available - apply for internships and research jobs, really get to know your professors, volunteer, go on the department field trips, join organizations, and network even if you don't like to. Work hard, keep an open mind, and you never know what opportunities may arise!”