

## Stephanie Clendenen

### Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science 2014

Stephanie is currently working towards a Masters of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology through the 3 + 2 program offered by the Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Toledo. This 3 + 2 program allows Stephanie to earn her Bachelors and Masters degrees in five years rather than six in the traditional program. The 3 + 2 program also allows her to continue her education while working full time as a biological technician in sampling water quality at Maumee State Park.

Stephanie has found it beneficial to identify a professor or two to connect and meet with regularly as, “these discussions can lead you to programs that you had never heard of before.”

This is how she found out about the MPH degree track. She also believes that these meetings with professors make students want to do better in their course work. Meeting with professors can also introduce students to internships and job opportunities that they would not have been aware of otherwise.

Advice Stephanie would offer current students is to make sure that they are passionate about what they are doing to avoid becoming discouraged by work. She also recommends not being afraid to step outside of your comfort zone and specifically take classes that you might not consider interesting. She recommends this because, “you never really know if you will actually like the subject and take on something new without giving it a try.”

