

Christopher Kelly (He/Him/His)

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EDUCATION

University of Delaware

Newark, DE

MS, Marine Studies, Concentration in Oceanography

August, 2023

MS Thesis: Do prescribed burns yield enhanced carbon storage in salt marshes? A comparative assessment in Delaware salt marshes with varied burn histories University of Delaware, University Graduate Scholar Award Recipient (2021)

Drexel University

Philadelphia, PA

BS, Dual Major in Environmental Science and Geoscience

September 2020

Charles Wentz Carter Memorial Foundation Fellowship (2018)

EXPERIENCE

University of Delaware, Wozniak Marine Organic Geochemistry Lab

Lewes, DE

Graduate Research Assistant/ Laboratory Coordinator

August 2021 - Present

- Conducted salt marsh biogeochemical research on organic and black carbon utilizing a suite of methods for the purpose of understanding how prescribed burns can create additional ecosystem services
- Developed field sampling plans and coordinated with state employees and lab members to execute them efficiently
- Applied computer programs including QGIS and R Studio to analyze data sets and create figures for the purpose of answering research questions
- Worked collaboratively with colleagues to perform a literature review on salt marsh restoration for a technical document focused on the role of prescribed burns on ecosystem services
- Assisted in upkeep of both field and laboratory equipment and supplies to ensure high productivity
- Aided colleagues with their research on several projects involving time in the field and on research vessels

Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control

New Castle, DE

Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances, Environmental Scientist I

November 2020 - September 2021

- Assisted the Heating Fuel Oil UST Removal Assistance Program through permitting and site visits
- Wrote a series of success stories on Brownfield sites that have been remediated
- Collaborated on a project archiving older documents into a new system

AXA XL, Environmental

Exton, PA

Risk Engineer Intern

April 2019 - February 2020

- Reviewed Phase Is, IIs, and other environmental/ geologic documents for sites to assign risk values based off potential for contaminants
- Researched various topics such as LNG and CCS for the creation of white papers
- Reviewed legal documents related to past claims for the purpose of a claims coding project

Academy of Natural Sciences, Department of Environmental Biogeochemistry

Philadelphia, PA

Lab & Field Technician

April - September 2018

- Obtained and analyzed Delaware River Watershed samples utilizing a variety of methods
- Provided aid to other department's field work including Wetlands and Fisheries

SKILLS

Laboratory and Field: CHNS Elemental Analysis (Costech), HPLC, YSI, Sample Processing, Instrument Troubleshooting, Vegetation Identification, Field Plan Coordination, Chemothermal Oxidation for black carbon, Estuarine Field Work

Computer: Microsoft Excel, R Studio, GIS/QGIS