

Careers in NEPA

- Architect
- Biologist
- Botanist
- Chemical Engineer
- Civil Engineer
- Conservation Scientist
- Corporate Planner
- Environmental Scientist
- Enforcement Inspector
- Engineer
- Land Surveyor
- Legal Officer
- Librarian
- Marine Biologist
- Physical Planner
- Planning Technician
- Project Manager
- Public Education Officer
- Public Relations Officer
- Urban Planner

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Students' Resource Guide

A list of resources on selected environmental topics



**National Environment
and Planning Agency**

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Students' Resource Guide

The objective of this guide is to provide a list of useful resources for students completing School-Based Assessments (SBAs) and essays on selected environmental topics.

This Guide provides general tips on how to access information and resources via:

- NEPA's Documentation Centre
- Interviews
- The Access to Information Act (ATI)
- NEPA's Website
- Libraries of other agencies

The themes covered in this booklet are:

- Coastal Degradation
- Coral Reef Degradation
- Air Pollution
- Water Pollution
- Land Pollution
- Climate Change

The booklet also includes a glossary of environmental terms.

and natural disasters.

Environmental management – The control and guidance of human interactions and impacts on the environment, as well as the development of strategies to manage and conserve natural resources.

Global warming – A phenomenon believed to occur due to buildup of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases caused by human activities.

Ground water-All water found beneath the surface of the ground which is not chemically combined with any minerals present.

Habitat- The natural physical environment in which an organism or ecological community normally lives or occurs.

Mangrove- Evergreen trees and shrubs that grow in dense thickets or forests along tidal estuaries, in salt marshes, and on muddy coast in the tropics and subtropics.

Pollution- The introduction of pollutants into the environment usually through the contamination of soil, water or atmosphere.

Surface water- All water naturally open to the atmosphere, including rivers, streams and estuaries.

Water quality – The physical, biological and chemical organoleptic (taste related) properties of water.

Watershed- An area of land that catches precipitation and drains or seeps onto a marsh, river, stream or groundwater.

Source: Sustainable Development Terms and Concepts: A reference for Teachers and Students. Trinidad: The Cropper Foundation, 2009.

****Source: Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan.** Jamaica: Ministry of Water, Land Environment and Climate Change, 2013

Glossary

Atmosphere – The layer of gases surrounding the earth and retained by the earth’s gravity.

Biodiversity – The variability among living organism from all sources: terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, as well as the ecological complexes of which they are part.

****Climate** – The long-term average weather of the region, including typical weather patterns, the frequency and intensity of the storms, cold spells and heat waves.

****Climate change** - A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and is addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

Coral reef- A large, ridge-like underwater formation created from the exoskeleton of coral polyps.

Coastal zone - Lands and waters adjacent to the coast that exert an influence on the uses and ecology are affected by the sea.

Development - The application of human, financial, and physical resources to satisfy human needs.

Ecosystem – Dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.

Endangered species – A specie that is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.

Endemic Species- A specie limited to a specific region or locality.

Environmental degradation- The deterioration of the environment’s quality from ambient concentrations of pollutants and other activities and processes like improper land use, species extinction

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National Environment and Planning Agency

The National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) is an Executive Agency under the Ministry of Water, Land Environment and Climate Change. NEPA was formed to carry out the technical (functional) and administrative mandate of three statutory bodies- the **Natural Resources and Conservation Authority**, the **Town and Country Planning Authority** and the **Land Development and Utilization Commission**.

NEPA aims to promote sustainable development by ensuring the protection of the environment and orderly development in Jamaica. The primary roles and functions of NEPA include:

- Conservation & Protection (Natural Resources Management)
- Environmental Management
- Spatial Planning
- Compliance & Enforcement
- Applications Management
- Public Education
- Policy & Research
- Legal Services & Standards Management

The Sharon O'Connor Documentation Centre

The Sharon O'Connor Documentation Centre is a special library within the National Environment and Planning Agency. The Documentation Centre can be accessed, Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Contact us via telephone or email: doccentre@nepa.gov.jm

Tel: (876) 733-9130; 754-7540 ext: 2400, 2401, 2402

Website: www.nepa.gov.jm

EBook

The Impacts of Climate Change on Biodiversity in Caribbean Islands: What we Know, What We Need to Know, and Building Capacity for Effective Adaptation. Trinidad: Natural Resources Institute, 2009.

EBook

Climate Change Policy Framework and Action Plan. Jamaica: Ministry of Water, Land Environment and Climate Change, 2013

EBook

Development Trends in Jamaica's Coastal Areas and the Implications for Climate Change/Alison Richards. Jamaica: Planning Institute of Jamaica, 2008

Ebook

Surviving Climate Change in Small Islands– A guidebook. United Kingdom: Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, 2005

(NPA LBA Jamaica). Jamaica: United Nations Environment Programme, 2000

Toward Developing a National Policy on Ocean and Coastal Zone Management. Kingston: National Council on Ocean & Coastal Zone Management, 2002

Climate Change

Jamaica's Vulnerability and Adaptation: Climate Change and Sea Level Rise. Jamaica: MWH, 2000

Climate change and Human Health in Jamaica. Jamaica: UNDP, 1999

Climate Change and Agriculture in Jamaica: Agriculture sector Support Analysis. Rome: FAO, 2013

Climate Change and Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean: a Consultation process/ Juan Dumas. Quito, Ecuador: Foundation Futuro Latinoamericano, 2008

Climate Change Impact on Dengue: the Caribbean Experience/ A. Anthony Chen. Kingston: UWI, 2006

Climate Change initiative 1998 – 2002. Washington, D.C., USAID, 2002

Why Climate Demands Change/Michael A. Taylor. Jamaica: GraceKennedy Foundation, 2015

Turning up the Heat: Linkages between Ozone Layer Depletion and Climate Change: the Urgent Case of HCFCs and HFCs/ Environmental Investigation Agency

State of Jamaican Climate 2012: Information for Resilience Building (Summary for Policy Makers). Kingston: PIOJ, 2012

[EBook](#)

Case Study on the Impact of Climate Change on Water and Sanitation. Barbados, UNDP, 2009

Collection

The collection contains literature covering environmental and planning subject areas such as:

- Climate Change
- Biological Diversity
- Water Resources
- Marine Resources
- Environmental Management
- Human Settlement
- Pollution and Wastes
- Environmental Monitoring
- Environmental Law

NEPA's Website

A variety of documents such as reports, policies, plans, legislation, standards amongst other documents may be accessed by visiting the website. There is a **Student Resource Centre** with a variety of presentations, brochures, booklets and pamphlets on the environment and planning. See link below:

http://www.nepa.gov.jm/new/services_products/subsites/student/index.php

The collection of the Documentation Centre is accessible via the online catalogue. Please see link below:

<http://www.nepa.gov.jm/nepa/nepabas.htm>

Interviews

Students may also request to interview officers of NEPA. Interview questions should be submitted via email to pubed@nepa.gov.jm or doccentre@nepa.gov.jm along with their contact information. These requests will be processed in the shortest possible time, subject to the availability of technical officers and the nature of the questions.

Access to Information (ATI) Act

The Access to Information (ATI) Act was passed in June, 2002. It gives members of the public the legal right to access official government documents which would otherwise be inaccessible from the Documentation centre. Students, therefore, may also utilize this medium to access certain documents. It should be noted that if access is granted, documents will be made available to applicants within **thirty (30)** days. However it may take up to sixty (60) days.

How to make a request

Persons needing to submit an access to information request may do so in person, by telephone, facsimile or by email to:

Information Officer

Public Education and Corporate Communication Branch

National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA)

10 & 11 Caledonia Avenue, Kingston 5.

Ph: (876) 754 7540 ext 2435; **Fax:** 876 754 7596

Email: pubed@nepa.gov.jm **Web Site:** www.nepa.gov.jm

Libraries of other Agencies

Students are encouraged to contact other libraries/documentation centres to access related information. These include:

Ministry of Water, Land, Environment & Climate Change (MWLECC)

Documentation Centre

Coastal Water Quality Improvements Project II: Semi-annual Report. Jamaica: CWIP II, 2005

Land Use and Impacts on Water Resources. Jamaica: WRA, 2000

Environment Statistics 2005 and Water/ Statistical Institute of Jamaica. Jamaica: STATIN, 2006

A Collection of Studies Conducted from the Port Royal Marine Laboratory on the Status of Kingston Harbour, Jamaica. Bulletin of Marine Science. 73.2. (September 2003)

Improving the Environmental Performance of Industries Discharging to Kingston Harbour/Claude Davis & Associates. Canada: CDA, 2004

The Impact of Dunder Ferti-irrigation on Water Quality: Black River, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica/Michelle Watts. Jamaica: WRA, 2009

Alternative/Innovative Technologies for Potable and Waste Water Management. Jamaica: UWI Centre for Environment and Development, 1996

Land Pollution

Regional Overview of Land Based Sources of Pollution in the wider Caribbean Region/ United Nations Environment Programme. Puerto Rico: UNEP, 1994

An Analysis of the Impacts of PET vs. Glass in the Jamaican Soft Drink Industry/Wisynco Group of Companies. Jamaica: WISYNCO, 1996

General Pollution Prevention Information/United States Environmental Protection Agency. Washington,D.C.: USEPA, 1994

Monitoring Industrial Emissions and Wastes: a Manual/United Nations Environment Programme Industry and Environment. Paris: UNEPIE, 1996

National Programme of Action of Jamaica for the Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment from Land-based Activities

Air Pollution

Handbook for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (1985). Kenya: United Nations Environment Programme Ozone Secretariat, 2006

Report on Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Conducted in Kingston Metropolitan Area (KMA) February 6-13 2012. Jamaica: National Environment and Planning Agency, 2012

E-Library

Report on Ambient Air Quality monitoring conducted in the Kingston Metropolitan Area (KMA): In Response to the fire at the Riverton City Solid Waste Disposal Facility (11-30 March 2015). Jamaica: National Environment and Planning Agency, 2015

E-Library

How Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Developing Countries can Protect the Ozone Layer. France: United Nations Environment Programme, 2000

The Natural Resources Conservation Authority (Air Quality) Regulations, 2006. Jamaica: National Environment and Planning Agency, 2006

E-Library

Toward a Sustainable Air Pollution Monitoring Network for Kingston/W.R. Pinnock, M.A. Richards and R. Kahn. Jamaica: Department of Chemistry, UWI, Mona, 2005

E-Library

Water Pollution

Faecal Coliform Levels of Coastal Water in Jamaica/ Louis Berger. Jamaica: Louis Berger Int'l Inc, 1997

Contamination of the Rio Cobre River by Effluent from the Agro-Industrial Complex at Bog Walk, St. Catherine/Basil Fernandez. Jamaica: UWA, 1995

25 Dominica Drive, Kingston 5

Tel: (876) 926-1590-3

Email: info@mwlecc.gov.jm ; **Website:** www.mwh.gov.jm

Subject Areas: Water, Environment, Land, Physical planning, Housing, Climate change

Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)

The Wesley Hughes Documentation Centre

16 Oxford Road, Kingston 5

Tel: (876) 960-9339

Website: www.pioj.gov.jm ; **Email:** info@pioj.gov.jm

Subject areas: Sustainable development, Economic planning, Social policy, Environmental policy

Urban Development Corporation (UDC)

Information Centre

12 Ocean Boulevard, Kingston

Tel: (876)-656-8031

Email: info@udcja.com ; **Website:** www.udcja.com

Subject areas: Urban development, Urban renewal, Planning, Land use

Water Resources Authority (WRA)

Documentation Centre

Hope Gardens, P.O. Box 91, Kingston 7

Tel: (876) 927-0077

Email: info@wra.gov.jm; **Website:** www.waterresourcesauthority.com

Subject areas: Water resources, Hydrology, Surface water, Ground water, Water pollution

Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)

Documentation Centre

2-4 Haining Road, Kingston 5

Tel: (876) 906-9674-5

Email: odpem@cwjamaica.com ; **Website:** www.odpem.gov.jm

Subject areas: Disaster, Disaster management, Emergency relief, Hazards.

Coastal Degradation

Assessment of the Economic Impacts of Hurricane Gilbert on Coastal and Marine Resources in Jamaica United Nations Environment Programme. Jamaica: UNEP, 1989

Sediment Sample Collection and Analyses pre and post Shorelock Application Jamaica: Mona Informatix Ltd 2013

Tidal Gauge Rotation and Data Analysis Report. Jamaica: National Environment and Planning Agency, 2013

Hellshire Mangrove Restoration Time Zero Report. Jamaica: National Environment and Planning Agency, 2013

Beach Erosion Status and Trends (2009, 2012). Jamaica: National Environment and Planning Agency

NEPA Installation of Mooring Buoy Systems and Maintenance Plan in the Palisadoes/ Port Royal, Montego Bay and Negril Marine Protected Areas. Jamaica: Environmental Moorings International, INC, 2012

Initial ShoreLock Application at Font Hill Beach Park, Norman Manley Beach and Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory. Jamaica: Hydros Coastal Solutions, 2013

Beach Erosion in Jamaica: A Situation Analysis. Jamaica: Integrated Watersheds and Coastal Zone Management Branch, National

Environment and Planning Agency, 2007

E-Library

Son of a Beach: Jamaica and the Coastal Zone/Dr. Parris Lyew-Ayee, Jr. Jamaica: Environmental Foundation of Jamaica, 2015

E-Library

Coral Reef Degradation

Coral Reefs of Jamaica: Reef Status and Trends (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014 Jamaica: National Environment & Planning Agency

Coral Reefs of Jamaica: An Evaluation of Ecosystem Health (2011, 2013). Jamaica: National Environment & Planning Agency

2014 Coral Reef Assessment Portland Bight Protected Area. Jamaica: Suzanne Palmer, 2015

Towards Reef Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods a Handbook for Caribbean Coral Reef Managers/Peter J Mumby. United Kingdom: University of Exeter, 2014

Coastal Capital Jamaica Coral Reefs, Beach Erosion and Impacts to Tourism in Jamaica/Benjamin Kushner. Washington D.C: World Resources Institute, 2011

Future of Reefs in a Changing Environment: an Ecosystem Approach to Managing Caribbean Coral Reefs in the Face of Climate Change. Jamaica: FORCE – Project, 2011

Protecting Jamaica's Coral Reef Ecosystems: Phase II Water Quality issues—Final Report/Edited by Katy Thacker. Kingston, 1994

Status of Coral Reefs in the Drivers River Watershed: Benthic Community Identification for the Drivers River Watershed. Kingston: Centre Marine Science, 2010