



Dillon Meicke

Water Engineering Intern

I assist full time engineers with design, inspections, and administrative work.

How long have you been a water engineering intern?

I have been an intern for one year.

Where do you currently intern?

I work for Gannett Fleming - Engineering Consulting Company.

How do you spend most of your time at work?

- 1) Mostly I'm on the computer assisting engineers with whatever task they need.
- 2) I draw maps of where pipes are located, make sure the equipment to be used on the construction site is correct, call vendors about availability of specific equipment and update spreadsheets with materials usage.
- 3) Occasionally, I join meetings to listen in on what's going on and sometimes go out in the field and inspect what's going on at an actual construction site.

Why did you choose this career?

I chose a career in engineering because I always liked building and designing things as a kid. I chose water engineering because I am passionate about the environment and helping people gain access to necessities like clean drinking water. This field combined my passions and skills, coupled with a growing job market and high salary, and made it a perfect choice for me.

What did you do to prepare for this career?

Currently I am working on earning a bachelor's degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering so I can work as a full-time engineer instead of as an intern.

DILLON'S FUN FACT

Reading books like Toms River (a true story about a chemical company that polluted the water in Toms River, NJ and made people sick) helps to broaden my knowledge and inspires me to continue on my career path!

What do you enjoy most about your job?

The fact that I know what I'm doing is helping people gain access to a vital necessity.

What do you find most challenging about your job?

Communication is something I struggle with. Trying to meet deadlines can be stressful and knowing what and when to communicate things with my coworkers can be frustrating.

What is one piece of advice you would give to a young person who is interested in your profession?

I believe engineering is a solid career choice with many options. So, do your research! Choose a career that combines your skills and passions. There is likely something out there that is perfect for you. The best way to know what you want to do is get involved and try it out. Join a club, volunteer or just talk to people in that field. This will give you a better picture of what you want and don't want in a career and will make your decision much easier!



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