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SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE  
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PROJECT LEARNING TREE



MANRRS

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## GREEN JOB FACT SHEET SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER

Sustainability managers ensure that organizations set and meet environmental goals, adhere to environmental standards, and minimize environmental harm. They make sure that organizations' business practices are economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. Their job is to ensure that people and the planet prosper now and in the future.

### The Big Picture

Sustainability managers promote environmental protection and social responsibility, while also maintaining profitability, by:

- **Developing** sustainability plans to help organizations conserve energy, use resources wisely, and manage waste.
- **Ensuring** that organizations comply with environmental, health, and safety regulations.
- **Keeping** current on the latest sustainability trends, products, and certifications.

### Salary

U.S. salaries range from about \$66,050 to \$208,000+ per year and average about \$179,520.

### Where Can You GROW?

A career in sustainability management can include work as a **business manager, production manager, accountant, or compliance officer**. Some possible employers:

- Federal, state, or local government agencies
- Manufacturing facilities
- Nonprofit organizations
- Universities, colleges, and other academic institutions
- Environmental consultant firms

### Moving Forward >>>

Here's a path of study that could lead to a career as a **sustainability manager**. You'll likely need a four-year college or even a graduate degree.

- **HIGH SCHOOL:** Focus on environmental science, biology, chemistry, engineering, and economics. Volunteer for environmental initiatives in your area to gain hands-on experience.
- **COLLEGE:** Earn a bachelor's degree in business, environmental science, environmental management, engineering, or sustainability. Consider earning a master's degree in environmental policy, economics, or business administration.

For more about green jobs, visit [www.plt.org/workingforforests](http://www.plt.org/workingforforests)

### IS THIS CAREER RIGHT FOR YOU?

DO YOU LIKE THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE? ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT FINDING SOLUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES?

If so, this might be the perfect career for you!

Sustainability managers must be organized and must enjoy multi-tasking. They lead teams, coordinate among departments, and communicate with internal and external stakeholders. To succeed in this job, you need writing, critical thinking, active listening, complex problem solving, reading comprehension, and speaking skills, and an analytical mind to identify problems and research solutions.

