

***Megan Kownurko wins the 2022 PAEP Maurice Goddard Scholarship!***

Megan attends Pennsylvania State University. She is majoring in Environmental Resource Management (ERM) with a 3.58 GPA. In addition to playing the piccolo in the Penn State Volleyball and Basketball Pep Band, Megan is part of the Penn State Soil Judging Team, where she uses her knowledge of soil to accurately determine morphological features found throughout the soil profile and help her team compete against other universities. She is also a part of the ERM Society, where she participates in regular discussions of environmental and professional topics while helping to build a community within her major. Megan volunteers at her local environmental center, Shaver's Creek, where she helps with programs like the annual Maple Harvest Festival, serving as a nature interpreter. At Shaver's Creek Environmental Center Megan was appointed as a Learning Group Leader for the Outdoor School where she teaches fifth graders about various environmental topics in a residential camp setting and trains other college students to become Outdoor School counselors. She is also a Soils 102 Teaching Assistant and Soils 101 World Campus Grader in the ERM Department. Megan will be presenting a research poster at the National Tri-Societies conference for The American Society of Agronomy, the Crop Science Society of America, and the Soil Science Society of America. She works as a research assistant for a Biogeochemistry lab group, assisting with various graduate-level research projects, including a 10-year cover crop research project. In addition, she is currently a Resource Conservation Intern for the Centre County Conservation District and working for Penn State World Campus as a Soils 101 Teaching Assistant. Megan's future plans evolve from her passion for soils and include obtaining a position with a Conservation District performing conservation and outreach to local communities, agricultural stewardship, and outdoor education.