

# What It Takes to Be an Environmental Leader

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An environmental leader is one who acts with passion, purpose, and humility towards a desired future existence while respecting, validating, and trusting those involved in the process to act courageously towards a shared vision.

- Adam Flett, Heather Baltes, Mollie Thompson

Being an environmental leader means being adaptive to changing circumstances. It is important to be innovative and have a vision so that as the situations change it is still possible to work towards the goal. Sharing power with others is important to manage limited resources and to effectively utilize the multiple interests and parties involved with the environmental issue. The ability to see other's strengths and know how to apply them to the goals is imperative in achieving a collaborative effort.

- Alison Luedtke, Laura Thomas, Amanda Strommer

To be an environmental leader, you must have the passion and drive to take action and empower others. This will require knowledge of the issues, and the ability to adapt to changes in the future, as well as communicating this to those you are empowering. Establishing trust is key in building these relationships and motivating others.

- Abbey Kopan and Kyle Todd

To be an environmental leader one must be passionate about natural resource/environmental issues. Because of the challenges that arise with achieving a desired outcome, passion fuels the persistence needed to accomplish these outcomes. This persistence leads to effectiveness which stimulates change and progress.

- Emily Bowers, Will Clausen, Rebecca Hammer

Environmental leaders understand the natural world in which humans live, and are passionate about improving it. They are engaged in their role by communicating, being flexible in the way they create change, and by being a strong example of that change.

- Hannah Fisher, Don Rigney, Erik Hauptman

An effective environmental leader will always do what is best for the resource understanding that it may not be the most popular or profitable thing to do. A leader must have foresight and be flexible enough to react to changes. To incorporate the public to minimize conflict.

- Christina Ripplonger, Eric Puschinsley

An environmental leader is a "cautious optimist" with a vision to define goals and objectives in an interconnected and diplomatic manner. They must empower others through energy, motivation and flexibility.

- Arielle Courtney, Brian Remackel, Scott Kiesling

To be an environmental leader, it requires a genuine passion for issues, that leads to the ability to inspire others to instigate ideas, actions and change through their visionary ideas.

- Chelsea Stein, Sam laizzo

To be an environmental leader one should be educated and have a firm background on the topic. This background should help in teaching but be open to continual learning in a participatory process. Since the information is taught the leadership can be delegated to others through established trust to avoid burnout. Realistic goals should be set which will assist in relationships and accountability. This will keep a positive attitude and a solution focused in finding a common ground.

- Nicole Tzanakis, Amanda Gregerson

An environmental leader is able to organize and communicate theirs and others visions and gain the backing of the scientific community to understand and ace on the vital connections between human and natural systems. They are able to work within the current framework and side by side with others while looking towards the future with a positive urgency to create change.

- Sarah Panzer, Sierra Schroeder, Erika Guenther, Erin Barke

An environmental leader contains qualities that all leaders have, and comes by many of those naturally. They also have the experience, both leading and in the field, to help move along current issues. They have the confidence and will to guide your passion and others.

- Tim Wernimont, Krista Trender, Aaron Meilicke

An environmental leader is a compassionate visionary that leads by example and empowers people. Can motivate and instill confidence in people.

- Meghan Karschnia, Jason Byrd, Jordan Mahieu

Leadership is the ability to communicate a vision for true environmental change and inspire the action of others.

- Brandon Breen, Ed Rudberg, Seth Stapleton

To be an environmental leader: be knowledgeable, adaptable, strong with clear goals, and have the ability to work with other people and their ideas.

- Jenny Wood, Kali Rauk-Nelson

Being a passionate person, and also having a goal for the greater good of the people as a whole. Working with knowledgeable resources to bring about a solution that only benefits the greater good.

- Rochelle Roche, Joshua Gamble, Shawn Walding