

## **STEM Mentoring for the Environment: A Case for Doing Something that Matters**

As Engineers, Scientists, and Geologists, we may or may not be aware of the statistics related to the declining in the number of US students graduating in the Science-Technology-Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields. As Environmental Professionals, we may, however be feeling the sting of insufficient employees to fill our roles as auditors, compliance specialist, and remediation experts. We will review data showing the poor performance of our graduating seniors in STEM subjects, the widening gap in the numbers of STEM graduates vs. workforce needs, and how the US compares world-wide in STEM-available employees. We will also learn the types of activities environmental professionals can become involved in to help reverse this trend. By taking the time from our busy, billable day to instill passion in our youth to appreciate our Earth and love our STEM subjects, we will reap vast rewards in the future by equipping future generations with the ability and desire to protect and preserve the environment for decades to come. Come be inspired to help our youth help us and our world.

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