

Exploring Green Careers

Part Two:

Your Turn to Interview

Kane Samuel



nature
forward

natureforward.org

To get the most from an interview, it helps to learn a little bit about your subject beforehand.



During a livestream event you will meet:

Kane Samuel

And learn about his role as an

**Environmental Protection
Specialist**

with

**DC Department of Energy
& Environment (DOEE)**



Kane Samuel

What does an Environmental Protection Specialist do?



The work of an Environmental Protection Specialist is very important! Think about all the ways we depend on the environment to keep our bodies and our families healthy.

What are some ways that the environment (nature) helps you stay healthy?

Part of Kane's job is to monitor, or keep track of, what is happening in the air around DC. We need clean air to breathe, and knowing what is happening in the air helps us stay safe when we're outside.



Kane at the McMillan Monitoring Site

https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-09/Unfair%20Air%20DC_Kane%20Samuel.pdf

Understanding Air Quality

Knowing how to interpret the Air Quality Index can help you make healthy decisions when you see the forecast for the day. The chart to the right breaks down air quality into 5 categories with a description of who is most at risk of health concerns at each level.

You can check the current air quality any time at

[AirNow.gov](https://www.airnow.gov)



What is the current air quality where you live? Match the color and rating to the chart on the right.



AIR QUALITY INDEX

Level of Concern	Description of Air Quality
0 Good	Air pollution poses little or no risk.
50 Moderate	Air quality is acceptable, but there may be a risk for very pollution-sensitive people.
100 Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Pollution-sensitive people may experience health effects.
150 Unhealthy	Pollution-sensitive people may experience serious health effects & others may be at risk.
200 Very Unhealthy	The risk of serious health effects increases for everyone.
300	

★ ★ ★ DEPARTMENT
OF ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENT

Check today's air quality
& tomorrow's forecast at
[Airnow.gov](https://www.airnow.gov)

Let's hear from Kane!



BEFORE
watching the
video...

In this video, Kane talks about a certain **holiday** and **time of year** when we often see **worse air quality**... can you guess when that might be??

Listen to Kane offer some important tips for staying healthy when the air quality outside reaches dangerous levels.

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfzDCwL14DA>

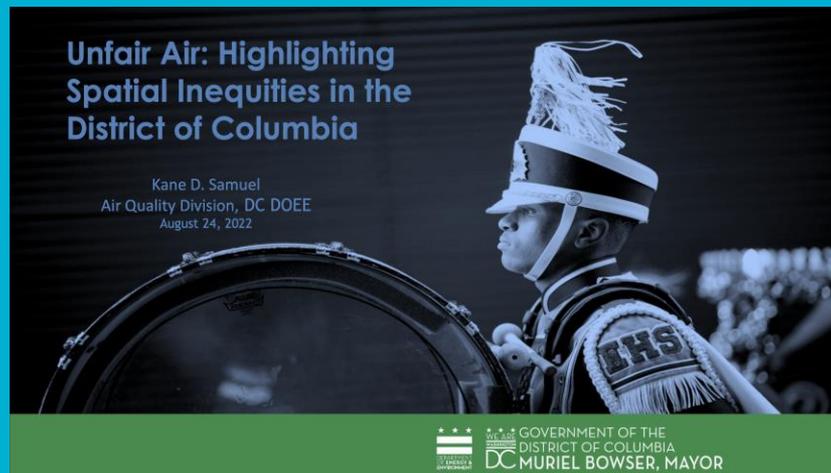
Air quality doesn't impact everyone equally

Even though we all need air, not everyone has access to the same clean air. In some parts of the city, air quality is consistently worse and the residents who live in those neighborhoods experience "bad air days" more frequently.

In this report, Kane shares how air quality and environmental justice intersect to disproportionately affect Black residents in DC.



How can we make sure everyone in DC has access to clean air?



https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-09/Unfair%20Air%20DC_Kane%20Samuel.pdf

Your turn!

This educational module from Clean Air Partners provides students with a case study to analyze air quality data and develop an air quality report to inform the public about whether their air is safe to breathe.

Find the full free curriculum at ontheair.cleanairpartners.net



OUR LUNGS OUR AIR OUR HEALTH

The Effects of Ozone Pollution
on Human Body Systems



WHAT'S THE AIR FORECAST?

Human Impacts, Weather, and the
Story of a Code Red Day



AIR POLLUTION IN THE COMMUNITY

Combustion, Particulate Matter, and
Community Health



**nature
forward**
Formerly Audubon Naturalist Society
Est. 1977

natureforward.org

Air Quality Awareness Week

In 2023, May 1-5 was [Air Quality Awareness Week](#), with the theme “Working Together for Clean Air”! To celebrate, DOEE hosted community events around the District to inform people about the importance of air quality.

They also held a student art contest for 2-D artwork that celebrates and portrays a clean air future in the District!

Watch for more information about this year's Air Quality Awareness Week and any opportunities to enter your own art in a contest!



What Do You Wonder?

What questions do you have about the work of an Environmental Protection Specialist?

What questions do you have about monitoring air quality?

What questions do you have about the work of DOEE?

What questions do you have about Kane's career experience?

Now that you are familiar with **Kane** and his career, write down some questions to ask during the livestream event!

