

COURTNEY WALTERS

DIESEL/EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROFILE

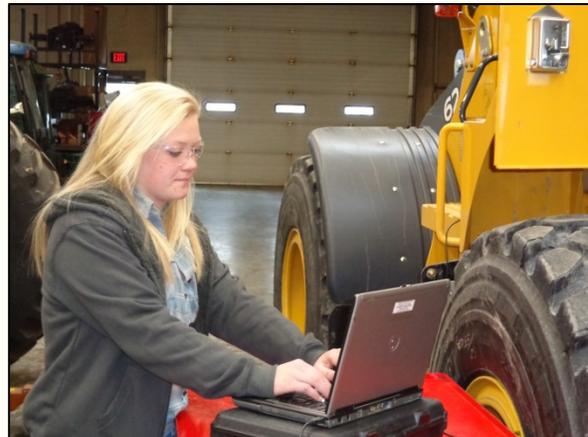


EDUCATION



State University of New York (SUNY)
Cobleskill, NY
Diesel Technology, A.A.S.
John Deere Construction and Forestry
AED Accredited Program
Graduation Date: May 2013

Winner: 2013 Tools Scholarship,
The mikeroweWORKS Foundation



HOME: Hopewell, New Jersey



CAREER GOAL

After finishing the college diesel technology program at SUNY, I will work full-time for Jesco, Inc. as a Diesel Technician. Sometime in the future, I would like to have my own diesel shop.

630.574.0650

The AED Foundation
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AEDFoundation.org

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CAREER QUESTION AND ANSWER

1. How did you become aware of the equipment technician career opportunity?
My father heard about this program from the John Deere dealer that we frequently work with. I asked them to sponsor me for college and they did.
2. What were the factors in your decision to be an equipment technician?
I have always been around heavy equipment since I was a young child. I was operating machines since I could reach the controls. I started working on the equipment as I got older and loved doing it. So, I decided to become a heavy equipment mechanic.
3. What do you like about being an equipment technician in your current job?
I love the challenge of having to diagnose the problems that occur on the machines and the gratification of fixing those problems.
4. How do you recommend that a student explore this career opportunity?
If you are interested in this career, I would suggest finding a dealership that may be able to help you start a career in this field, or maybe find a part time job working with equipment.
5. How do you suggest students prepare for an equipment technician career?
Make sure you have TOOLS! A mechanic is only good if they have the right tools to use to fix the equipment. Also study up on the equipment and know what's new that is coming out in the market.
6. What type of education should students get to prepare to be a technician?
I believe that a hands-on education is very important, especially if you are not familiar with what parts look like and how they operate. Theory is also important so you understand how the parts work internally and externally.
7. What are your thoughts and plans for your career moving into the future?
In the future, I plan to become the best I possibly can in my field.
8. What else do you want others to know about your experience and this career?
At first I was nervous about getting into a male dominated field. I overcame the fear when I began going to Career and Technical School in 11th grade. Don't ever think you can't fulfill your dreams, regardless of gender!
9. What are the benefits you see to a career in equipment technology?
There are tons! Heavy equipment is never going to go away, at least in my lifetime, so there will always be a need for good technicians. You will always be able to find a job whether it is fixing the equipment or operating it. There is also a lot of diversity; you can work on many types of equipment like loaders, skid steers, backhoes and even skidders.