

Greg Carling, PhD

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Faculty Page:

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Why did you become a scientist?

I became interested in geology during my 8th grade earth science class. I never planned on being a "scientist" but started taking geology classes during my freshman year of college and never looked back. As I was finishing up my master's degree in geology, my advisor encouraged me to pursue a PhD. By that point, I loved doing research and thought that a PhD might lead to a fun career that would allow me to make a difference in the world. My geology career has been great so far, even better than expected!

What do you study for DUST²? Why is this important?

I study the impact of dust on air quality and water quality. This is important because it affects our health and the health of the environment.

What do you do day-to-day in your work?

I spend most of my time teaching classes, meeting with students, and doing research. The research part includes field work to collect dust and water samples, lab work to analyze the samples, and data analysis. I work with students to try to publish our results in scientific journals.

What is your favorite part of what you do and why?

I love discovering new things, especially if it somehow helps our planet. I also enjoy watching my students succeed in their research projects and start their own careers.

What advice do you have for students interested in science?

Find something that interests you and go for it. This is especially a great thing to study if you love being outdoors.

Discover more DUST² Scientist Spotlights here:
<https://criticalzone.org/dust2/scientistspotlights>

