

Celicia Lynette Boyden Hardy, MS, EIT

Engineering Science, A.S. Quinebaug Valley Community College '12

Environmental Engineering, B.S. University of Connecticut '14

Environmental Engineering & Science, M.S. Johns Hopkins University '19

Quinebaug Valley Community College (QV) set the foundation for my success in higher education and rewarding career as a Water Resources Engineer. The privilege to receive an exemplary education at QV, with such generous financial support from the QV Scholarship Foundation, is an invaluable opportunity for all members of our community. Upon successfully navigating through the Engineering Science A.S. program at QV, I applied to several universities to pursue a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering. The spring of my last semester, I received a scholarship from the QV Scholarship Foundation. I was able to use this scholarship to cover the transfer student application fees as well as assist with other costs associated with starting at a new university. Beyond just providing financial support, QV also provided opportunities for me to further my career and financial independence. The Engineering Science program director, Mark Vesligaj, helped me apply for several summer internships. With his guidance and encouragement, I started at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) the summer before my first semester at UConn. At the end of the summer, the USGS offered me a permanent position. I was able to work as a hydrogeologist while I completed my bachelor's degree, which reduced my student loan burden. I'm so grateful to be a QV alumni and for the opportunities my time there afforded me. The Foundation provides a vital stepping stone for academic and economic mobility that directly impacts our community. Please join me in supporting other hard-working students by donating \$20.20 to the Foundation this year!

Professional Bio

Celicia joined Fuss & O'Neill in 2015 after working at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). As a Water Resources Engineer based out of the company's Providence, RI office, Celicia draws on her applied science and engineering-based education to implement ecological improvements throughout New England. Her projects are focused on stormwater management, flood mitigation, habitat restoration, and water quality improvement. While working full-time at Fuss & O'Neill, Celicia simultaneously completed a Master's degree in the Environmental Engineering and

Science for Professionals Program at Johns Hopkins University. She brings a positive attitude that augments her technical strengths and diverse work experience.