



# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

**Grace Hagberg**  
Project Scientist



**Q. How did you become employed at ATL?**

**A.** After graduating from Clarkson University in '22, I was torn between going back to school or looking for a job. My friend, roommate, and teammate during college, Sydney Roderick, told me I should reach out to her dad about working for ATL. After a few phone calls and talking with Chris, I had submitted my application and was packing my bags to head to Rochester.

**Q. Who were your mentors at ATL when you started out?**

**A.** In Rochester, I was mentored by Andy Amell and Jordan Stachowiak. Jordan has been with me for a range of projects, and I'm grateful for her knowledge & the laughs we share on every job. Andy Ward had many environmental opportunities around the Utica area when I first started that he always extended to me, helping me to expand my horizons into the Environmental Consulting world. With the support of my western NY coworkers, Dylan Snyder and Andy W. helped make my transition to Albany seamless, and Bob Read has been a great mentor to me here.

**Q. What technical skills did you acquire that helped make you an expert in your position?**

**A.** I graduated from college with a degree in Environmental Science and Policy, which opened my eyes to a wide range of topics. My advisor was awesome, and I was able to do research under him throughout my junior and senior year about indoor air quality monitoring, which helped with my troubleshooting equipment, data interpretation, and final papers. Being a college athlete and captain on my lacrosse team helped me tremendously with time management, responsibility, teamwork, and taking pride in my work. I definitely did not come to ATL with a vast knowledge of construction materials, but I have learned so much along the way.

**Q. Did you make decisions that helped you move forward in your ATL career?**

**A.** It might not be a decision per se, but I think that not being afraid to ask questions has helped me move forward in my career. Though it might feel embarrassing to be bugging someone with multiple phone calls in one day, it is important to make sure the job gets done correctly. Not only does this help you expand your knowledge and explore a new way of looking at things, but it also shows that you want to do the job correctly and take your work seriously. To me, showing interest and learning from your mistakes is the best way to move forward.

**Q. What project that you worked on is the most memorable, and why?**

**A.** Jordan and I did a survey at the West Seneca DDSO which I will never forget. Not only was it a big project that really opened my eyes to how surveys are conducted, but we also saw some pretty interesting things throughout the footprint of that abandoned building. I also worked with drilling on a sediment sampling project along several rivers throughout the Buffalo area. This was my first time seeing the barge, and getting to work with Tim Gavin and Cory Farmer over the course of those couple weeks was great.

**Q. What do you like the most about the path your ATL career has taken?**

**A.** I really love the responsibility that has come with my new role. I am a very hands-on learner, so being able to be involved in a project from the RFP and field work to final invoicing has made everything really click for me. On the other side of things, I love driving. Though I went to school in New York, I am from Rhode Island and am not super familiar with many parts of NY. Getting to move around the state to different jobs



has been really cool, and I love finding great local coffee shops wherever I end up.

**Q. What do you like to do outside of ATL?**

**A.** Outside of ATL, I enjoy reading, hanging out with my cat Layla, hiking, cooking, thrifting, and checking out new breweries & coffee shops around the area with my boyfriend Caleb. I love spending time with my friends and family and traveling to new places. Growing up near the ocean, I try to go back to the coast as much as possible – nothing beats the beach any time of year! I’m currently “training” for a half marathon in November and can’t wait for football season to start back up – Let’s Go Buffalo!



Grace’s cat Layla.



Cacade High Peak in the Adirondacks.



Cape Cod.



Celebrating with friends at a Bills game.



Grace on the Clarkson University lacrosse team.