



# Meghan Maly

## MHS IN ONE HEALTH

### Why did you choose the University of Florida?

As someone who has lived in Northeast Florida nearly their entire life, I knew that the University of Florida was an excellent school. Also, I felt that the Master's in Health Science Program with the University of Florida was specific to my interests in a way that I had been unable to find in other programs. When I completed by undergraduate studies in Biology, I realized how interested I was in the effects of environment on human health. Naturally, I was quite pleased to discover the One Health field as it had everything that I was interested in!

### Research Experience

I conducted research with the University of North Florida while completing my undergraduate studies in a cyanobacteria systematics laboratory. Also, I briefly worked with the City of Jacksonville's Mosquito Control, where I was a laboratory assistant to the city's entomologist. While working here, I conducted species identification of mosquitoes with the use of dichotomous keys and learned about surveillance efforts for mosquito borne diseases in Jacksonville, Florida. Currently, I work with the Bureau of Environmental Health of the Florida Department of Health with the Water Program, which includes Limited Use drinking water systems (well water).

### If you could solve one environmental and/or global health problem, what would it be?

Ultimately, I believe the access to clean and safe drinking water is a human right and is a fundamental resource that is not evenly accessed worldwide.

### What are your career goals?

In my current work, I have been able to make a direct difference in peoples' lives in our immediate community. I feel a sense of commitment to people in my community, and I truly have enjoyed working in governmental type roles. However, I would like to branch out into a research orientated field whether it be with the local, state, or federal government.

### Educational Background

Bachelor of Science in Biology  
University of North Florida

### Research Interests:

- Water toxicology
- Vector borne diseases
- Climate change

### What philosophy guides you in your education?

I have always felt that the more information that you have access to, the more you are able to help people that might not otherwise have the resources or access to information to answer the questions that effect their day to day lives. This has proven to be true when working with clients or citizens while working with the Florida Department of Health.