WHO WE ARE
The Nicholas School of the Environment creates knowledge and leaders of consequence for a sustainable future through a new paradigm in research and education: one that attempts to understand the Earth, the environment, and people and human institutions as an integrated whole, and to use that understanding to foster and spread the ethic of environmental stewardship.

Located in the heart of the campus, the school provides a comprehensive multidisciplinary program focused on the relationship of the environment and society to prepare scientists, managers and policymakers to promote the sustainable use of Earth’s resources. The Nicholas School’s program is enhanced by strong collaborations with Duke’s Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions and Duke’s ten other graduate and professional schools.

The Nicholas School has produced alumni who are leaders in conservation management, industry, government, environmental consulting and academia. Students emerge from our program as multi-talented problem solvers who are poised in a corporate boardroom, confident on Capitol Hill, and comfortable in natural surroundings.

OUR HISTORY
The Nicholas School represents a coming together of three academic entities that are almost as old as Duke itself: The School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and the Duke University Marine Lab, both formed in 1938, and the Department of Geology, formed in 1936.

Today, the school is composed of three divisions that reflect this broad scholarly heritage: Marine Science and Conservation; Earth and Ocean Sciences; and Environmental Sciences and Policy.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
We offer Master of Environmental Management and Master of Forestry degrees, and provide educational opportunities for students at the doctoral and undergraduate levels. We provide executive and continuing education through the Duke Environmental Leadership (DEL) Program, including the primarily online DEL-MEM program.

RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT
More than 100 core and affiliated faculty members hold appointments at the Nicholas School. While maintaining our tradition-ally broad range of expertise, we are actively developing new areas of scientific, technological and policy strength in climate and energy, ecosystem services and conservation, and human health and the environment, in response to rapidly emerging new environmental challenges and opportunities.

Multidisciplinary centers or projects headquartered at or affiliated with the school include the Center for Geospatial Medicine, Duke River Center, the Duke University Wetland Center, Center on Global Change, the Marine Geospatial Ecology Laboratory, the Superfund Research Center, and The Energy Hub.

FACILITIES
The Nicholas School is located on Duke’s main campus in Durham, N.C. It is complemented by unique access to natural ecological laboratories – the 7,000-plus acre Duke Forest in Durham, and the year-round Duke University Marine Laboratory on the Atlantic coast -- as well as the resources available at three nearby universities and in Research Triangle Park, home of several federal environmental agencies.

The Nicholas School of the Environment is headquartered in Environment Hall at 9 Circuit Drive located on Duke’s West Campus and linked by a walkway to the A Wing of the Levine Science Research Center (LSRC) which will continue to house school laboratories and some administrative offices. The 70,000-square-foot, five-story glass-and-concrete building incorporates start-of-the-art green features and technologies inside and out. The hall houses five classrooms, a 105-seat auditorium, 45 private offices, 72 open office spaces, a 32-seat computer lab, an outdoor courtyard and an environmental art gallery, as well as conference rooms, shared workrooms and common areas. Green features range from rooftop solar panels and innovative climate control and water systems, to special windows that moderate light and heat, to an organic orchard and sustainably designed landscaping.

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