

VITA

Jennifer Lyn Benning was born in Winston Salem, North Carolina, in 1972. She attended public schools in Long Valley, New Jersey, and graduated from West Morris Central High School in 1990. She graduated from Rutgers University, with a B.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering in 1995. She then pursued the degree of Masters in Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech and completed the degree in 1997. She plans to have no long term plans, because she feels that too much planning may lead to potentially missing out on wonderful, unexpected opportunities. She instead intends to follow the wind and her heart on whatever path they may take her on through life. And she hopes to live a good life, helping other people and all of the living earth in any way that she can.