

NDSCS Land Surveying/Civil Engineering Technology (LSCET)



Chris Loehr is a 2008 graduate of the program. Chris came to NDSCS from Devils Lake, ND. After completing military boot camp, Chris relocated to Wahpeton and did some “odd jobs” until he realized that he wanted to go back to school and pursue a career. He came to NDSCS to see campus where he found information about the LSCET program. It seemed to be a great fit, considering he enjoys being outdoors. Chris says “I liked the idea of being on a construction project and seeing it from start to finish. From the initial preliminary survey to construction (construction is my favorite part), which involves the plan reading and inspection of the project, to make sure the contractor is following the plans and specs set by the Engineer --eventually the “as built” survey (final survey).”

While in school, Chris was active in the Civil Technology club, serving as the Vice President one year and the President the following year. He was asked to sit on the Advisory Board, serving as the student representative both his first and second year. It was there that he met his future employer, Damon DeVillers of Interstate Engineering. Chris attended the annual Career Fair on campus later, where he and Damon visited about the possibility of Chris working for Interstate Engineering. Chris soon began 12 years of employment as a Civil Engineering Technician with Interstate. While employed there, Chris also taught in the Civil Technology program at NDSCS, as an adjunct teacher in 2015.

Just recently he embarked on a new adventure with the City of Breckenridge, MN. Chris has many titles in his new role: Building Official, Zoning Administrator and Civil Technician. He is eager to take on this new position and says he will be learning new things as he goes.

Chris credits his education here with providing the skills he needs to do his job. “You learn the tools to understand lots of aspects of the job: City projects, road work, elevation, construction plans/print reading (that is a big piece!)”

His advice to students considering this career:

“If you love the outdoors, this is the perfect place for you! You can do anything you want, even if you don’t think so at first--shoot for the stars!”