Kristi Gebhart earned her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Meteorology at the University of Utah in 1979 and 1981, respectively. After working as an air quality scientist for an environmental consulting firm for a short time, she joined the United States National Park Service in 1986.

Kristi currently works in Fort Collins, CO, where she's part of a multidisciplinary team of government and university scientists and engineers at the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (CIRA) at Colorado State University. The team works to understand air quality issues in parks nationwide. Her primary expertise is in source-receptor relationships; especially back trajectory and receptor modeling. This involves analyzing air quality data collected in the parks, then using statistical relationships and meteorological modeling to infer locations and types of sources that contribute to air quality impairment. She has been involved in the nationwide Interagency Monitoring of PROtected Visual Environments (IMPROVE) monitoring program since its inception in 1988 and participated in large air quality studies at Grand Canyon, Mt. Rainier, Shenandoah, Big Bend, Rocky Mountain, and Grand Teton National Parks. Results of some of these studies led directly to emissions reductions that ultimately improved air quality in the parks. She is a past chair of the Air & Waste Management Association's Visibility and Radiative Balance Technical Subcommittee and a member of the American Meteorological Society. She is married to Howard Gebhart (M.S. 1979) and they have three children, ages 16-30.