Horticultural Career Resources

Careers in Horticulture

**Arboretum/Botanical Garden/ Horticultural Garden/Public Garden Worker**
- Plant and maintain plant collections and gardens
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Arborist/Urban Forester/ Tree Service Technician**
- Care, protect, and maintain woody plants, especially trees
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Archivist**
- Work with archived materials such as historic photos or garden furnishings
- Requires a minimum of a four-year degree

**Botanist/Plant Biologist**
- Study the form and function of plants
- Requires a minimum of a four-year degree

**Conservatory Management**
- Manage and maintain plant collections in a conservatory
- Work with the public
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Editor**
- Edit and manage writing pieces in scientific or gardening magazines, journals, books, etc.
- Requires a minimum of a four-year degree

**Educator**
- Teach horticulture or related subjects
- Create educational programming
- Requires a minimum of a Bachelor Degree or Master Degree. Ph.D. required for teaching at college or university level

**Enologist/Oenologist**
- Study the science of wine & winemaking
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Entomologist**
- Research and manage insect populations & behaviors in gardens
- Requires a minimum of a four-year degree

**Floriculturist**
- Specialize in cut flowers, bedding plants, and potted plants
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Florist/Floral Designer**
- Floriculturist who designs flower and foliage plant arrangements
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Food Scientist/Technician**
- Work in food production and processing
- Focus on issues such as food safety, quality, and nutrition; developing new food products; educating consumers
- Requires a college degree

**Garden Center Worker**
- Sell landscape plants, tools, and supplies in a retail outlet
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Greenhouse Worker**
- Plant, cultivate, manage, and harvest greenhouse crops
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Grower/Plant Producer/Farmer**
- Produce horticultural crops for retail or wholesale markets
- Wide range of educational requirements

**Horticultural Therapist**
- Use plants and horticultural activities to improve emotional, mental, and/or physical well-being of patients
- Requires specialized training in a post-
Horticultural Career Resources

secondary program accredited by the American Horticultural Therapy Association

Illustrator
- Create technical botanical illustrations of plant specimens
- Wide range of educational requirements
- Many certification programs available

Integrated Pest Management Specialist
- Manage and control pest populations
- Wide range of educational requirements
- State certification in pesticide use required

Interior Landscaping
- Design, install, and maintain interior plantings in private or public buildings
- Wide range of educational requirements

Irrigation Specialist
- Sell, install, operate, and repair irrigation systems at various locations
- Requires two- to four-year degree in grounds management, landscape design, or a closely related field

Landscape Architect
- Plan and design exterior landscapes (including streetscapes, parks, recreational areas, etc.)
- Generally requires a four-year degree; some positions require a graduate degree.
- State registration or certification also required

Landscape Construction
- Install ornamental plant material, turfgrass, and structural landscape features according to plans from a landscape designer or architect
- Wide range of educational requirements

Landscape Estimator
- Visits prospective landscape sites to give cost & project estimates
- Wide range of educational requirements

Landscape Designer
- Plan and design exterior landscapes for homes, estates, and small commercial buildings
- Requires a minimum of a two-year college or technical degree

Landscape Maintenance/Groundskeeper
- Plant and maintain private and public landscapes, gardens, and lawns
- A two- to four-year degree is recommended

Lawn Care Specialist
- Home lawn maintenance
- Wide range of educational requirements

Librarian
- Manage collection of literature related to botany, horticulture, etc. particularly in a botany library (at a museum, botanical garden, etc.)
- Help to educate the public
- Requires a graduate degree in Library Science

Living Collections Manager
- Oversee the research, management, and archiving of a living collection (i.e. tree collection or orchid collection)
- Requires a minimum of a four-year degree

Marketing
- Market and promote horticultural crops or products
- Post-secondary training is required

Nursery Worker
- Plant, transplant, maintain, and harvest nursery crops
- Wide range of educational requirements

Plant Breeder/Geneticist
- Produce new and improved plant varieties
- Requires a four-year degree for entry level positions; graduate degree for advanced positions
**Plant Diagnostican**
-Specialize in determining the cause of various plant problems (i.e. diseases, insects, etc)
-Requires post-secondary training

**Plant Inspector**
-Inspect plants in commercial nurseries, garden centers, orchards, as well as borders or entry/exit points
-Ensure that material is free of specific insects or diseases
-Requires a four-year degree or graduate degree

**Plant Pathologist**
-Study plant diseases, their causes, and their management
-Requires a four-year degree for technical positions; graduate degree for advanced positions

**Plant Propagator**
-Propagate new plant material using various techniques (grafting, seed production, tissue culture, and vegetative propagation)
-Wide range of educational requirements

**Pomologist**
-Specialize in the production and marketing of tree fruits, tree nuts, and small fruits
-Wide range of educational requirements

**Researcher**
-Conduct experiments, studying various aspects of plant cultivation, propagation, production, pets control, etc.
-Requires a graduate degree

**Technician**
-Provide technical assistance to professionals, such as arborists, foresters, landscape architects, horticulturists, etc.
-Requires a minimum of a four-year college

degree; some positions require a graduate degree

**Tree Assessors**
-Arborist who estimates tree values and the cost of tree damage for insurance claims
-Requires post-secondary training

**Turfgrass Management**
-Develop and maintain turf areas, such as golf courses, sod farms, sports fields, etc
-Requires a two- or four-year degree in turfgrass management

**Urban Planner**
-Develop long- and short-term plans for the use of land in urban, suburban, and rural communities to encourage growth and revitalization
-Requires a minimum of a four-year degree

**Viticulturist**
-Study grape production for wine, juice, raisins, and other grape products
-Requires a four-year degree

**Writer**
-Write articles or reports for a variety of publications such as books, magazines, journals, etc.
-Wide range of educational requirements
Horticultural Career Resources

Related Degree Programs
(local to DC area)

**Horticulture**

**Virginia**
- Ferrum College: Minor program in *Horticulture*
- J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College: Associate of Applied Science in *Horticulture Technology*
- Northern Virginia Community College: Associate of Applied Science in *Horticulture Technology*
- Virginia Highlands Community College: Associate of Applied Science in *Horticulture Technology*
- Virginia Tech: Bachelor of Science in *Environmental Horticulture* or *Landscape Contracting*
  - Minor Program in *Horticulture*

**Maryland**
- University of Maryland: Bachelor of Science in *Horticultural & Nursery Production*

**Delaware**
- Delaware State University: Bachelor of Science in *Horticulture Plant Science*

**Pennsylvania**
- Delaware Valley College: Bachelor of Science in *Horticulture*
- Temple University: Associate’s degree in *Horticulture*
  - Bachelor’s degree in *Horticulture*
  - Minor in *Environmental Horticulture* or *Environmental Studies* or *Landscape Studies* or *Sustainable Food Systems*

**Agriculture**

**Delaware**
- Delaware State University: Bachelor of Science in *General Agriculture*
- Delaware Technical Community College: Associate’s degree in *Agribusiness Management or Production Agriculture* or *Turf Management*
- University of Delaware: Bachelor of Science in *Agriculture & Natural Resources*

**Maryland**
- University of Maryland: Bachelor of Science in *Agricultural Science & Technology* or *Agricultural Education*

**Pennsylvania**
- Delaware Valley College: Bachelor of Science in *Sustainable Agriculture Systems or Crop Science*

**Virginia**
- Ferrum College: Bachelor of Science degree in *Agricultural Sciences*
- Virginia Tech: Various degrees and areas of study available

**Landscape Architecture**

**Maryland**
- University of Maryland: Bachelor of *Landscape Architecture*
  - Master of *Landscape Architecture*

**Pennsylvania**
- Delaware Valley College: Bachelor of Science in *Landscape Architecture* or *Landscape Contracting and Management*
- Temple University at Ambler: Master of *Landscape Architecture*
Horticultural Career Resources

**Virginia**
- University of Virginia: Master of Landscape Architecture
- Virginia Tech: Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
  - Minor in Landscape Architecture
  - Master of Landscape Architecture
  - Ph.D. in Architecture and Design
  - Research

**Landscape Horticulture**

**Delaware**
- Delaware Technical Community College: Associate’s degree in Landscape and Ornamental Horticulture
- University of Delaware: Bachelor of Science in Landscape Horticulture & Design
  - Minor in Landscape Horticulture & Design

**Landscape Technology**

**Maryland**
- Montgomery College: Associate of Applied Science in Landscape Technology

**Professional or Certificate Programs**

**District of Columbia**
- George Washington University: Graduate Certificate and Master’s degree in Landscape Design

**Maryland**
- Institute of Applied Agriculture (UMD): Certificate in Agricultural Business Management or Sustainable Agriculture or Landscape Management or Ornamental Horticulture or Turfgrass Management
- Prince George’s Community College: Letter of Recognition in Ornamental Horticulture

**Pennsylvania**
- Longwood Gardens: Professional Gardener Program
- Delaware Valley College: Certificate in Ecological Landscape Design or Environmental Studies or Floral Business or Horticultural Therapy or Organic Farming Production as well as noncredit course options

**New York**
- Cornell University: Master of Professional Studies in Public Garden Leadership

**Virginia**
- Germanna Community College: Career Studies Certificate in Horticulture
- Piedmont Virginia Community College: Career Studies Certificate in Horticulture
- Tidewater Community College: Career Studies Certificate in Horticulture
- University of Richmond: Certificate in Landscape Horticulture, Plants & Practices or Landscape Design
- Virginia Western Community College: Career Studies Certificate in Horticulture
Web Resources

American Public Gardens Association:  
http://www.publicgardens.org/content/career-center

American Society of Botanical Artists:  
http://www.asba-art.org/

American Society for Horticultural Science:  
http://www.ashs.org/

Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries  
http://www.cbhl.net/

Grow your own career in Horticulture (UK):  
http://www.growcareers.info/

Jobs in Horticulture, Inc:  
http://www.hortjobs.com/

Sustainable Food Jobs:  
http://sustainablefoodjobs.wordpress.com/

The Land Lovers:  
http://www.thelandlovers.org/index.asp

University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service:  
http://www.uky.edu/Ag/CCD/introsheets/hortcareers.pdf