



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-



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 Diagnostician

- 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, pest 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



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*



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>