

TRADE PROFILE

Landscape Horticulturist



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RED SEAL

TRADE PROFILE

LANDSCAPE HORTICULTURIST



STRUCTURE OF THE TRADE PROFILE

This profile has two sections that provide a snapshot of the trade's description, and all trade activities as they are organized in the Red Seal Occupational Standard:

Description of the Landscape Horticulturist trade: an overview of the trade's duties, work environment, job requirements, similar occupations and career progression

Task Matrix: a chart which outlines graphically the major work activities, tasks and sub-tasks of this trade

Major Work Activity (MWA): the largest division within the standard that is comprised of a distinct set of trade activities

Task: distinct actions that describe the activities within a major work activity

Sub-task: distinct actions that describe the activities within a task

A complete version of the occupational standard, which provides additional detail for the trade activities, skills and knowledge can be found at www.red-seal.ca.

DESCRIPTION OF THE LANDSCAPE HORTICULTURIST TRADE

“Landscape Horticulturist” is this trade’s official Red Seal occupational title approved by the CCDA. This standard covers tasks performed by landscape horticulturists whose occupational title has been identified by some provinces and territories of Canada under the following names:

	NL	NS	PE	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	NT	YT	NU
Landscape Horticulturist	■	■	■	■			■	■	■	■			
Horticultural Technician						■							
Landscape Worker					■								

Landscape horticulturists survey and assess landscapes, draw sketches and interpret plans. They construct and maintain gardens, parks, golf courses and other landscape environments. In addition, landscape horticulturists construct and maintain hard landscape elements, such as patios, walkways and walls. They also prepare estimates, provide products and services, and advise clients on issues related to horticulture and landscape projects. Landscape horticulturists also propagate, cultivate and study plants, and treat injured and diseased plants. They are employed by landscape designers, architects and contractors, lawn service and tree care establishments, recreation facilities, golf courses, parks, nurseries, greenhouses, and municipal, provincial and federal governments. They may also be self-employed.

Landscape horticulturists work with machinery and equipment ranging from simple hand tools to heavy equipment. They may be responsible for routine maintenance of tools and equipment. Landscape horticulturists may also work with a variety of products such as soils, pesticides, fertilizers and fuels and must be aware of their safe use, environmental best practices and government regulations.

Some landscape horticulturists specialize in areas such as landscape design, construction and maintenance, and greenhouse, sod and nursery production. They may work independently or with other professionals such as landscape architects, architects, engineers, and municipal planners.

Landscape horticulturists require good communication skills to coordinate and facilitate work with clients, co-workers and other trades. They also require strong analytical, decision making and organizational abilities.

The majority of the work such as landscape construction and maintenance, and snow and ice control is performed outdoors in all types of weather. Indoor work may involve greenhouse production, interior landscaping, and the sale of plants, landscape materials and supplies. The work may be strenuous and may involve activities such as lifting, climbing, carrying and bending. Employment in this trade may be seasonal with long hours.

With experience and proven competence, landscape horticulturists may advance to supervisory positions, training positions or become business owners.

This standard recognizes similarities or overlaps with the work of other tradespeople such as arborists, bricklayers/stone masons, heavy equipment operators, electricians, roofers, plumbers, small engine mechanics and carpenters.

LANDSCAPE HORTICULTURIST

TASK MATRIX

A – Performs common occupational skills

19%

Task A-1 Performs safety-related functions 19%	A-1.01 Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment	A-1.02 Maintains safe work environment	
Task A-2 Uses tools, equipment and vehicles 27%	A-2.01 Uses hand tools	A-2.02 Uses power tools	A-2.03 Uses measuring equipment
	A-2.04 Uses vehicles and motorized equipment, trailers and attachments		
Task A-3 Organizes work 27%	A-3.01 Performs site assessments	A-3.02 Uses documentation and reference material	A-3.03 Maintains records
	A-3.04 Participates in job planning activities	A-3.05 Orders materials	A-3.06 Organizes materials and equipment
	A-3.07 Transports materials	A-3.08 Transports equipment	

Task A-4 Participates in marketing and sales 15%	A-4.01 Controls inventory	A-4.02 Sells products and services	A-4.03 Maintains customer relations
	A-4.04 Prepares estimates		
Task A-5 Uses communication and mentoring techniques 12%	A-5.01 Uses communication techniques	A-5.02 Uses mentoring techniques	

B - Applies horticultural principles

24%

Task B-6 Applies horticultural practices 62%	B-6.01 Identifies plants and plant requirements	B-6.02 Manages plant health and growing conditions	B-6.03 Prunes plant material
	B-6.04 Manages pests, diseases and invasive species		
Task B-7 Applies environmental practices 38%	B-7.01 Practices environmental stewardship	B-7.02 Practices biodiversity enhancement	B-7.03 Practices soil stewardship
	B-7.04 Practices water stewardship		

C – Performs landscape construction

33%

Task C-8 Performs pre-construction activities 24%	C-8.01 Participates in landscape design activities	C-8.02 Prepares construction site	C-8.03 Performs grading
	C-8.04 Installs drainage systems		
Task C-9 Installs hardscape 32%	C-9.01 Installs landscape structures	C-9.02 Installs surface materials	C-9.03 Installs steps and retaining walls
	C-9.04 Installs irrigation systems	C-9.05 Installs water features	C-9.06 Installs low voltage landscape lighting
	C-10.01 Installs growing media	C-10.02 Installs exterior landscape plants	C-10.03 Transplants plants
Task C-10 Installs softscape 28%	C-10.04 Installs mulch	C-10.05 Installs turf from seed	C-10.06 Installs sod
	C-10.07 Installs interior landscape plants		
	C-11.01 Selects green infrastructure	C-11.02 Installs green roofs and walls	C-11.03 Installs rainwater and stormwater management systems
	C-11.04 Installs erosion control	C-11.05 Installs biodiverse plantings and natural areas	

D – Performs landscape maintenance

24%

Task D-12 Maintains hardscape 32%	D-12.01 Maintains drainage systems	D-12.02 Maintains landscape structures	D-12.03 Maintains surface materials
	D-12.04 Maintains steps and retaining walls	D-12.05 Maintains irrigation systems	D-12.06 Maintains water features
	D-12.07 Maintains landscape lighting	D-12.08 Practices snow and ice control	D-12.09 Repairs hardscape
Task D-13 Maintains softscape 47%	D-13.01 Maintains exterior softscape	D-13.02 Maintains interior softscape	D-13.03 Maintains turfgrass
	D-13.04 Propagates plant material	D-13.05 Repairs softscape	
Task D-14 Maintains green infrastructure 21%	D-14.01 Maintains green roofs and walls	D-14.02 Maintains rainwater and stormwater management systems	D-14.03 Maintains erosion control
	D-14.04 Maintains biodiverse plantings and natural areas		

E – Works in production of plant material (NOT COMMON CORE)

0%

Task E-15 Constructs growing facilities (Not Common Core)	E-15.01 Builds growing facilities (Not Common Core)	E-15.02 Installs growing facility components (Not Common Core)	
Task E-16 Operates and maintains growing facilities (Not Common Core)	E-16.01 Operates growing facility structures and amenities (Not Common Core)	E-16.02 Maintains sanitary environments (Not Common Core)	E-16.03 Operates climate control systems (Not Common Core)
	E-16.04 Operates irrigation and fertigation systems (Not Common Core)		
Task E-17 Manages greenhouse crops (Not Common Core)	E-17.01 Develops greenhouse crop production plan (Not Common Core)	E-17.02 Propagates greenhouse crops (Not Common Core)	E-17.03 Transplants greenhouse crops (Not Common Core)
	E-17.04 Grows greenhouse crops (Not Common Core)	E-17.05 Harvests greenhouse crops (Not Common Core)	E-17.06 Ships greenhouse crops (Not Common Core)
Task E-18 Manages nursery crops (Not Common Core)	E-18.01 Develops nursery crop production plan (Not Common Core)	E-18.02 Propagates field and container crops (Not Common Core)	E-18.03 Transplants field and container crops (Not Common Core)
	E-18.04 Grows field and container crops (Not Common Core)	E-18.05 Harvests field and container crops (Not Common Core)	E-18.06 Ships field and container crops (Not Common Core)
	E-18.07 Winterizes field and container crops (Not Common Core)		