Can Women be Horticulturists & Landscapers?

““You need to have muscles and have a lot of patience and understanding to negotiate with people to get their yard and garden exactly how they want it. It's a great career. It's fun to do and you'll benefit a lot from it.” —Debbie Town

Idaho Wages

Hourly Range $7.56 to $16.13
Median Wage $11.07
Individual Job wages may exceed $21/hour.

Regardless of Gender Horticulturists need to:

- Prepare nursery acreage or greenhouse beds for planting.
- Apply topsoil, fertilizer, peat moss, and other materials to condition soil.
- Dig, rake, and screen soil for rocks and impurities.
- Plant grass seed or grass plugs. Cut, roll, and stack mature sod.
- Apply chemicals to plants to kill bugs and mold.
- Trap and destroy pests, such as moles, gophers, and mice.
- Dig up shrubs and trees and wrap their roots. Use wheelbarrows to move them.
- Use hand and gardening tools.
- Dip flowers into disinfectant before packing them.
- Count flowers into bunches and pack them in boxes.
- Put together packing boxes.
- Answer customers' questions.

Specific for landscapers and groundskeepers.

- Plant flowers. Dig holes, add fertilizer, and plant trees and shrubs.
- Water and fertilize plants. Seed new lawns.
- Mow lawns.
- Clean and maintain hand tools and power equipment.
- Operate power equipment, such as lawn mowers and hedge trimmers.
- Maintain outdoor recreation equipment and swimming pools.
- Remove snow and ice.
- Prune trees and shrubs. Trim back flowers and weed flower beds.
- Climb trees using ladders or climbing hooks and belts.
- Mix and apply pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and other chemicals.
- Follow plans from landscape architect or directions from home owner when adding new plants.

Idaho Employment

8431 jobs — Very Large occupation
12.1% — annual growth
341 — annual jobs open
Nationally, women make up 8.0% of the labor force.

Job Outlook

The growing demand for plants should increase the number of jobs for nursery workers who tend plants. Other horticulture careers are Golf Course Maintenance, Landscape Design, Installation, and Maintenance, Urban Forestry, Orchards, Vineyards, Parks and Recreation, Sports Fields, Florists, Plant Therapy, Range Managers, and Foresters.

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