

## About Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers



### Employment Outlook

This occupation is expected to grow at a faster rate (12.7%) between 2008 and 2018 than the statewide average of 9.1 percent for all occupations. A total of 2,807 job openings are expected over the 10-year period, both due to growth in the occupation and the need to replace retiring landscaping and groundskeeping workers.

### Wages

Hourly wages vary widely in 2011, from \$9.09 per hour for entry-level workers to \$19.16 per hour near the top of the pay scale. The average hourly wage for landscaping and groundskeeping workers is \$13.30, which translates to \$27,678 annually for a full-time, year-round position.

### Selected Skills

- Apply planting or transplanting techniques
- Dig trenches, ditches, or holes with hand tools
- Grade soil or lawn surfaces to specification
- Recognize plant disease and plant species

## Learn More About Green Jobs...

[QualityInfo.org/Green](http://QualityInfo.org/Green)



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For additional brochures, please contact [Lmipubs.emp@state.or.us](mailto:Lmipubs.emp@state.or.us)

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## Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers

**GREEN** Jobs in Oregon



**L**andscaping and groundskeeping workers maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Tasks may include sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking, and sprinkler installation.

Not all landscaping and groundskeeping workers are “green.” Green workers have essential job duties in at least one of five categories included in the definition of a green job.

Green jobs work to:

- Increase energy efficiency
- Produce renewable energy
- Prevent, reduce, or mitigate environmental degradation
- Clean up and restore the natural environment
- Educate, consult, and provide other services that support the above

## Day in the Life of a Landscaping and Groundskeeping Worker: *Donovan Landa*

*What do you do in a typical day?*

I do a lot of digging, grading, and preparing soil for planting. I plant trees, shrubs, and flowers. I put in new irrigation lines, pumps, and water features. I construct retaining walls, patios, driveways, and install new lawns.

*What do you enjoy most about your job?*

I enjoy being outside in nature. Working on new construction projects is fun. There is a lot of physical labor, but I am rewarded when the job is completed. I might start out digging in mud or gravel, but when I am finished, there are new plants, trees and grass. When I see the results, it makes me happy.

*What are the most important skills you use in your job?*

Knowing how to talk to customers and involve them in the project is an important skill. I try to be flexible and do what the owner wants and still do what my boss wants. Sometimes this is a difficult balance. By involving my customers, I can almost guarantee they will be satisfied in the end.



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## Education and Training

Workers must have short-term on-the-job training to gain the necessary skills for this occupation. Those with related work experience have a competitive advantage in this labor market.

Some training programs in Oregon geared toward this occupation include green courses or green components of courses. Selected green programs include, but are not limited to:

### **Landscaping and Landscape Technology**

- Clackamas Community College
- Portland Community College

### **Landscape Technician**

- Rogue Community College

Visit [QualityInfo.org/Green](http://QualityInfo.org/Green) for more information about green jobs in Oregon.

