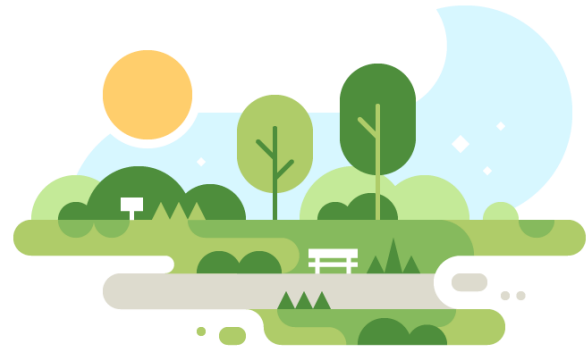


### Amenity horticulturist

**Amenity horticulturists design and create a range of public outdoor spaces including parks and gardens.**

Your role as an amenity horticulturist is to design, construct, manage and maintain living, recreational and leisure areas. These include: botanic and public gardens/cemeteries and crematoria/country parks/historic gardens and landscapes/sports facilities/urban tree planting/other public spaces. You'll usually be involved in all stages of design, growing and maintenance. The work is complex, requiring management and technological competence alongside a scientific understanding and the traditional skills of cultivation.



#### Skills:

You'll need to have:

- good communication and interpersonal skills
- efficient planning skills
- the ability to organise and manage your own workload
- problem-solving skills
- physical fitness
- the ability to work as part of a team and under your own initiative
- management and business skills

#### Qualifications:

##### University

Degrees or Higher National Diploma's (HNDs) in horticulture, agriculture, soil/earth sciences, environmental science or crop/plant science are beneficial. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) also offers a range of qualifications.

##### Apprenticeship

Horticulture apprenticeships offer an opportunity to study horticulture while working. They tend to be aimed primarily at 16 to 19 year olds but may also be open to older applicants. The RHS runs a two-year horticultural apprenticeship scheme, and Kew Gardens offers an apprenticeship suitable for applicants interested in botanical or amenity horticulture.

##### Volunteering

You may be able to gain relevant experience through a community gardening scheme or volunteering project. The RHS offers a limited number of unpaid internships.

#### Working hours:

You'll typically work a 40-hour week, though working hours and workloads may vary according to the season. Hours can be long and weekend working may be necessary. Part-time work and career breaks are also possible.

#### Salary:

- A graduate horticulturist's salary is between £17,000 and £25,000. Apprenticeship salaries vary considerably depending on the employer but are generally between £11,000 and £19,500.
- With five to ten years' experience, you can earn in the region of £20,000 to £30,000.
- As a head gardener, you may earn up to £40,000.

