

Gardener

Gardeners plant, cultivate, maintain, plan and construct parks, gardens and landscapes, and inspect, diagnose and treat trees and shrubs.

Job title examples



- Gardener
- Arborist / Tree Surgeon
- Landscape Gardener

Other jobs in this field of work

What gardeners do



- prepare and maintain seedbeds and growing sites
- propagate and plant trees, bushes, hedges, flowers and bulbs
- prepare lawn areas by spreading top soil and planting grass, and by laying instant turf
- maintain planted and grassed areas by weeding, trimming, fertilising, watering and mowing
- prune trees and hedges, and install plant support and protection devices
- prepare plans and drawings, select materials and plants, and schedule landscape construction
- set out and install hardscape and softscape structures
- construct gravel and paved areas, walls, fences, pergolas, ponds, barbecues and garden furniture
- examine trees to assess their condition and determine treatment
- lop limbs off trees and shape branches using chain and handsaws
- spray and dust plants and trees to control insects and disease, and fell diseased trees

Main employing industries



- Administrative and Support Services— Gardening Services
- Construction
- Public Administration and Safety (e.g. councils)

Qualifications



The following government subsidised qualifications are available in NSW:

Certificate III in Arboriculture available as a qualification

Certificate III in Horticulture available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Landscape Construction available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificate III in Parks and Gardens available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Certificate III in Production Horticulture available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Racing Services (Track Maintenance) available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Indigenous Land Management available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Lands, Parks and Wildlife available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Natural Area Restoration available as a traineeship or qualification

Certificate III in Permaculture available as a qualification

Certificate IV in Permaculture available as a qualification

Certificate IV in Horticulture available as a traineeship or qualification

Diploma of Arboriculture available as a qualification

Diploma of Horticulture available as a qualification

Diploma of Landscape Design available as a qualification

Apprenticeships and traineeships: Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay



- There are around 20,236 gardeners working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.
- Employers report a state-wide shortage of this occupation in NSW, in particular for qualified, ticketed and experienced arborists.

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Gardener: \$945
- All occupations: \$1,200

Related jobs



- Greenkeeper
- Nurseryperson

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#)

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, joboutlook.gov.au, based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014