



GATHER & GROW



Massachusetts
Nursery and
Landscape
Association

Join us for a 3-hour educational program on "The Wonderful World of Horticulture & Landscape" for high school students & professionals

SAVE THE DATE!

10.01.2025

WESTON NURSERIES

40 FRANKLAND ROAD
HOPKINTON, MA

**Sponsored by the Massachusetts
Nursery and Landscape Association
and the MNL A Foundation for
Educational Excellence**

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“GATHER & GROW”

*THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF
HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE*



PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

DATE & TIME: OCTOBER 1, 2025 | 9:30 AM TO 12:30 PM
LOCATION: WESTON NURSERIES, HOPKINTON, MA

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

MASSACHUSETTS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, EDUCATORS AND MNLA MEMBERS

AGENDA:

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABILITY AND THE GREEN INDUSTRY.
- OVERVIEW OF POTENTIAL CAREER PATHS SUCH AS HORTICULTURE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, ARBORICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SO MUCH MORE.
- EXPLAIN THE EVENT STRUCTURE AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES TO COME.

2. ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY: "GREEN CAREER BINGO"

- JOIN US AS WE LEARN ABOUT VARIOUS GREEN INDUSTRY CAREERS IN A FUN, INTERACTIVE WAY.
- HOW IT WORKS:
- EACH STUDENT RECEIVES A "BINGO" CARD WITH CAREER-RELATED TERMS LIKE "LANDSCAPER," "GROWER," "RETAIL," "URBAN FARMER," "RECYCLING SPECIALIST," "BOTANIST," AND OTHERS.
- STUDENTS MINGLE AND TALK WITH INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS, TRYING TO MATCH CAREER TITLES WITH DESCRIPTIONS OR ACTIVITIES.
- FIRST STUDENT TO COMPLETE A LINE WINS A PRIZE

3. HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS *ROTATING STATIONS

- STATION 1: GROWING AND PLANT CARE "THE IMPORTANCE OF PLANT SUSTAINABILITY"
- THIS IS HANDS ON WHERE WE WILL POT A PLANT IN A BIODEGRADABLE POT AND LEARN THE BASICS OF SOIL HEALTH, WATERING, AND LIGHT REQUIREMENTS.
- STATION 2: RECYCLING AND COMPOST
- LEARN ABOUT THE SIGNIFICANCE OF COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING WASTE IN GREEN INDUSTRIES.
- THIS IS A HANDS-ON SORTING ACTIVITY WHERE WE WILL SEPARATE RECYCLABLES FROM NON-RECYCLABLES WHILE SEEING INNOVATIVE UPCYCLING PLASTIC POTS. ADDITIONALLY, WE WILL EXPLORE WHAT CAN AND CANNOT BE COMPOSTED FOR MAXIMUM PLANT NOURISHMENT.
- STATION 3: LANDSCAPE DESIGN
- AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BASICS OF LANDSCAPE DESIGN OF THE RIGHT PLANT/RIGHT PLACE AND HOW SUSTAINABLE DESIGN IMPROVES URBAN SPACES.
- IN SMALL GROUPS "WITHIN THE GROUP" WE WILL DESIGN A SMALL GARDEN OR OUTDOOR SPACE. FOCUS WILL BE ON SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING PRACTICES SUCH AS NATIVE PLANTS, WATER CONSERVATION, AND GREEN SPACES.

4. CAREERS IN HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPING (LUNCHEON ACTIVITY)

- PANEL OF PRO'S SHARE THEIR PATHWAYS TO THE GREEN INDUSTRY, FOLLOWED BY Q&A SESSION: STUDENTS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREERS IN THE FIELD, EDUCATIONAL PATHS, AND REAL-WORLD APPLICATIONS OF LANDSCAPING AND HORTICULTURE.

5. CLOSING & REFLECTION

- REFLECTION DISCUSSION: THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO SHARE ONE THING THEY LEARNED AND A NEW IDEA THEY FOUND EXCITING.