

What is an MCH?

An MCH is a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist, having qualified through training and practice as expert in the field of horticulture. MCH professionals have the knowledge, experience, and resources to provide the most creative and comprehensive solutions for any residential or commercial landscape project.

An MCH is the ultimate resource for helping plants grow in Massachusetts.

The green industry

These green industry professionals are also stewards of our environment. Every time we plant a tree or shrub, we help to balance our carbon footprint. Good practices are important: the right grade can rectify a drainage issue, or certain plants can attract beneficial pollinators. Let an MCH be your guide to creating an environment that is both beautiful and sustainable.



Grow with a Pro!

MCH is a program of the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association, powering the green industry across Massachusetts with the education needed to serve customers. Massachusetts Certified Horticulturists (MCH) are professionals from all aspects of the Massachusetts green industry who have invested our time to train and qualify as experts in cultivating the local landscape.

Trust us to help you with your garden, turf, tree, and landscaping needs.



The Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association is an organization of garden center and nursery professionals, landscape contractors, garden and landscape designers, tree care professionals, fine gardeners, and turf pros.



Our members work together to give you the professional services and solutions you need.

Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association

P. O. Box 924  Palmer, MA 01069

www.mnla.com



Ask an MCH

Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist



Garden question? Landscaping challenge?

Before you plant anything, talk to an MCH.


A horticulturist is skilled in the cultivation and performance of plants—from grasses, shrubs and trees to vegetables, fruits and flowers. A Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist has the specialized training to understand and troubleshoot both common and unique garden and landscape problems. These pros can recommend effective and sustainable solutions for you.


What's more, every MCH has access to a network of product and service providers across the state to ensure that you get the answers you need. They are the professionals you can trust to install environmentally and economically sound garden and landscape projects.


When you choose an MCH, you'll have the confidence that the recommendations provided are based on both education and experience. These professionals can offer fresh ideas, sound techniques, and proven options.


When you work with an MCH, you know your project will be done right the first time. You can be sure your property is enhanced and your investment is protected with the advice and expertise of an MCH.

Why choose an MCH?

 The MCH designation is a reliable independent credential that consumers can count on when choosing a professional.

 An MCH understands the big picture because their certification demands interdisciplinary competence. They can offer practical and comprehensive solutions to a wide range of problems.

 An MCH knows the latest industry developments, environmental impacts, newest products, and best practices.

 Achieving MCH status enables the consistent delivery of the highest quality service.

**To find an MCH in your area, visit
www.mnla.com/member-directory.**



Want to know more?

The Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist program is sponsored by the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association (MNLA) to serve consumers by providing education and best practices for the green industry. MCH certification is available to any qualified nursery, landscape or green industry professional who adopts the MNLA code of ethics and passes a rigorous exam. To remain current and competitive, these professionals recertify each year.

Look for the tree!



Becoming an MCH requires building knowledge and experience in a wide range of disciplines, including:

- Identification and classification of both native plants and ornamentals
- Hardiness zones, soil science, and regional growing conditions
- Landscaping, hardscaping, and use of materials and equipment
- Planting and pruning of trees and shrubs
- Turf care, irrigation, and protecting groundwater
- Mulch, fertilizers, chemical and natural treatments
- Pest management, plant diseases, and weed control
- Sustainability, environmental impact, conservation, and safety