



Horticulture & Landscaping SPECIALIST HIGH SKILLS MAJOR

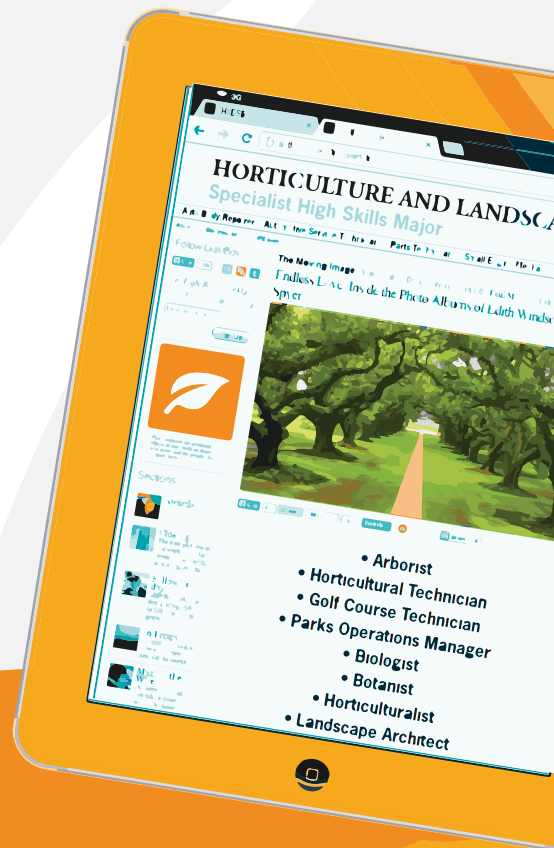
Potential Careers

- ✓ Arborist
- ✓ Horticultural Technician
- ✓ Golf Course Technician
- ✓ Parks Operations Manager
- ✓ Biologist
- ✓ Botanist
- ✓ Horticulturalist
- ✓ Landscape Architect
- ✓ Landscape Design

A “Head-Start” – Program Overview

The Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program in Horticulture, Green Industries and Landscaping gives students an opportunity to specialize, gain qualifications, and plan a career pathway in various areas of the Green Industries sector while still in high school. The SHSM Program has a number of required components, designed to give students a “head start” to pursue post-secondary opportunities in each of the identified sectors, valuing apprenticeship, college, university and direct entry into the world of work.

Horticulture, Green Industries and Landscaping education helps our young people build their confidence, express their individuality, creativity and improve how well they learn other school subjects. Studies show that students who participate in Green Industries education can develop math, literacy and writing skills with increased proficiency.



The SHSM Experience

- Gain an awareness of career opportunities in the Horticulture, Green Industries and Landscaping sector
- Participate in workshops and sessions with industry professionals
- The practical and theoretical application of Horticultural Techniques, Agra-Business, and Aquaponics
- Attain practical certifications in a variety of landscaping techniques and entrepreneurial skills
- Develop transferrable skills compatible with multiple pathways to all post-secondary destinations in Green Industries and Agra-Business

What is my Plan for Achieving My Goals?

Each SHSM program offers students a bundle of 8 - 10 credits. These courses are regular Ontario secondary school courses that allow students to work towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, but have been bundled as the most relevant courses to prepare students for a future in the Horticulture, Green Industries and Landscaping sector.

The bundle includes:

- 4 “major” credits in Horticulture, Green Industries and Landscaping at the Senior level (Grades 11 and 12). Courses are dependent on the focus of each respective program – contact Lead Teachers or Guidance contacts for information about specific course offerings / requirements.
- Supporting credits, which include Contextualized Learning Activities - opportunities for students to learn the subject in the context of the Horticulture sector i.e. Students complete a business project that is sector-specific
 - » 1 Grade 12 English
 - » 1 Grade 11 or 12 Art, Business Studies or Science credit
 - » 2 cooperative education credits that relate directly to the Horticulture, Green Industries and Landscaping sector

What are My Opportunities?

- **Resume-building and Awareness Training:** Students complete sector-recognized certifications related to the major and selected from a list, including Standard First Aid, CPR Training, WHMIS, and Plant Identification
- Additional electives specific to the sector including, but not exclusively: grading and sodding, tree planting, plant layout, pruning and lawn mower use and safety
- **Experiential Learning Opportunities:**
 - » Have the opportunity to job-shadow industry professionals
 - » Complete 2 Cooperative Education credits and get work experience in the sector
 - » See guest speakers, go on field trips and other workplace experiences to explore potential careers related to Horticulture and Landscaping
- **Reach Ahead Experiences:** Visit College and University campuses and industry partners to explore potential post-secondary pathway opportunities
- Completing the SHSM program prepares students for their pathway to apprenticeship, college, university or work

School: Notre Dame CSS, Burlington

SHSM Program: HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPING

Focus: Horticulture, Green Industries, Agra-Business & Aquaponics

Program Teacher: Al Nason nasona@hcdsb.org

For more information on the Specialist High Skills Major program:

- contact the program teacher
- contact your school guidance counsellor
- log into myblueprint.ca/hcdsb
- visit <https://haltonpathways.ca> and <https://studentsuccess.hcdsb.org>

