

Basic Grounds Worker Skills (Certificate of Completion)

This program is available on the MSU-B campus and online.

The Basic Grounds Worker Skills program provides basic knowledge to prepare students for entry into the fields of lawn care, parks and grounds maintenance, residential tree care and landscape installation.

COURSES

SOIL 210 Introduction to Soil Science	3
PLSC 273 Arboriculture	3
PLSC 248 Turf Management	3
FORS 262 Dendrology	4
*FORS 264 Urban Forestry Skills	1

* This course will be offered on campus during the summer semester. The course may be challenged following completion of an industry-recognized training course that is approved by the instructor. MSU-B course challenge policies are listed on page 35.

URBAN FORESTRY

Urban Forestry (AS)
Urban Forestry Technology (AAS)
Basic Grounds Worker (Certificate of Completion)

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WHAT WOULD I DO? EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Urban foresters/arborists care for trees and other woody plants. They may remove, plant, or transplant trees. Plant health care technicians diagnose tree disorders and suggest cultural as well as chemical treatments.

Forestry technicians compile data on the size, content, and condition of forest lands, either in cities or rural areas. This aids in long range planning to meet the goals set for the forest.

They may also train and lead volunteer groups in seasonal activities, such as planting and watering tree seedlings or maintaining recreational facilities.

HOW MANY JOBS ARE THERE? EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Employment for urban forestry technicians is expected to grow through the year 2008. In the past several years, all students have had multiple opportunities upon graduation.

WHY MSU-BOTTINEAU? PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Work on tree pruning and removal project with the local city forester and with local contractors on private residential jobs.
- Learn tree climbing techniques and safety in the Urban Forestry Skills class.
- Attend the NDUCFA (North Dakota Urban and Community Forestry Association) Tree Care seminar.

WHERE WOULD I WORK? EMPLOYMENT SITES

- About 10% work for the federal government (U.S. Forest Service or Natural Resource Conservation Service).
- Another 20% work for the state governments (State Parks, State Forestry Departments).
- Around 30% work for local governments (city forestry departments, college campuses, or parks).
- The remaining 50% work in private industry (private tree care companies, consultants, landscaping contractors, grounds management, companies for large corporations or casinos).
- Jobs are available worldwide.

HOW MUCH WOULD I EARN? EMPLOYMENT INCOME

Earnings vary widely depending on position and experience, ranging anywhere from minimum wage to more than \$25.00 an hour.

Nationwide, the average annual salary is about \$48,760 as a forester and \$29,730 as a forestry technician. In North Dakota, the annual average salary is about \$38,454 as a forester and \$27,645 as a forestry technician. Pay is widely dependent on the area where you work and the local cost of living. In most cases you will start 50-100% above minimum wage.