Environmental Horticulture

WHY STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE AT UMAINE?

The program provides excellent training in areas important to green industry employers and strong preparation for those seeking a graduate degree in plant science or landscape architecture. Students with a concentration in horticultural business have the option of completing a minor in business administration and may elect to continue an extra year to complete an M.B.A. program.

Research opportunities are available in many areas including cold tolerance; propagation and tissue culture; evaluation and introduction of woody and herbaceous ornamental plants; water use efficiency in greenhouse production; potato breeding and production; basic and applied studies in blueberry physiology and culture; pomology; sustainable vegetable and small fruit production; and weed-crop ecology and weed management.

The close working relationship between the environmental horticulture program and state, national and international horticulture industry members has been an important factor contributing to a nearly 100 percent employment record for our graduates.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE DEGREE?

Students graduating with a degree in environmental horticulture can find employment as a:

- Environmental educator
- Horticulture writer
- Entrepreneur
- Landscape account manager
- Plant manager

OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

The environmental horticulture program is a science-based curriculum that offers students theoretical and practical knowledge in plant sciences, sustainable and professional practices, business management and other related fields. Internships, field trips, independent projects, travel opportunities and volunteer activities are available.

Turfgrass management degree. Students can earn a bachelor's degree in environmental horticulture at UMaine and an associate degree in one year in turfgrass management from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. Qualified students spend their senior year at the University of Massachusetts Amherst earning 30 credits in the turfgrass science and management degree program in the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. The degree program will prepare graduates for professional careers in the management of golf courses, athletic facilities, lawn care and park maintenance industries.

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

The graduate program offers a master’s degree in horticulture with a wide range of research opportunities in both traditional horticulture and landscape horticulture.

OUR FACULTY

Our faculty are student-centered, approachable and encouraging. They are engaged with undergraduate students, serving as professional mentors as well as instructors. Their research programs address important current issues in horticulture and provide
undergraduates with the opportunity to participate in research.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCEL**

Environmental horticulture students learn in real-world settings. Hands-on learning at UMaine facilities include:

- **Roger’s Hall Design Studio** is a modern, well-equipped studio that provides environmental horticulture students in the landscape design concentration with the ideal space to begin and hone their training in the landscape design discipline.

- **Lyle E. Littlefield Ornamentals Trial Garden** is the on-campus resource for plant identification and design labs. Over the last four decades the garden has amassed a collection of over 2,500 woody and herbaceous plants. Major focus collections include lilacs, rhododendrons and magnolias.

- **Rogers Farm** is the home of the Penobscot County Master Gardener Demonstration Garden including a white garden, herb gardens and a perennial border.

- **Roger Clapp Greenhouses** house a diverse plant collection, including a banana plant, enormous succulents and orchids.

The program offers a variety of activities and clubs including:

- **Horticulture Club**. Created in 1989 and run by its student members, Horticulture Club activities include garden shows, and plant sales.

- **Bangor Garden Show**. The annual garden show allows students to demonstrate their creativity in garden design. The show gives students hands-on experience in every aspect of landscaping from preliminary drawing to planting the last shrub. Students collect the plant material and construct the final exhibit.

- **New England Grows**. New England Grows is the largest green industry trade show in North America. Students attend horticulture-related lectures, meet with exhibitors and alumni and have the opportunity to interview for jobs.

- **Black Bear Beauties Plant Sale**. This sale, organized by faculty and students, provides the community with beautiful native plants and raises funds for student scholarships.

Environmental horticulture students can choose from a variety of internship opportunities throughout the northeast and across the country.

**HOW DO I APPLY?**

Visit umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

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**UMaine has given me a lot of opportunities and a lot of exposure that I would have never had. The department has allowed me to move forward with my dream.**

— Meghan McPhee, Horticulture Major