



Job Situation

Outdoors, gardens, clients' homes and greenhouses. Gardening equipment and machinery. Sometimes strenuous, heavy lifting. Self-directed. Seasonal variations in routine. Long hours spring and summer.

Weekly Hours of Work

60

Overtime

As required

Monthly Salary

%,400

Student Loan – Owing

Student Loan – Monthly Payment

\$225

Duties

Create and maintain gardens. Care for houseplants. Advise, assist clients. Maintain equipment and supplies. Keep records and accounts.

Prospects

Manage nursery operation. Expand business, adding employees. Recreational therapy with seniors or disabled people.

Job Title

Horticulturalist, Self-Employed

National Occupational Classification (NOC)

2225

Job Description

Even though you work for yourself these days, your daily routine and your yearly schedule will always be dictated by mother nature. Spring and summer are very, very busy times for you, and you put in long hours getting peoples' lawns and gardens green and blooming with flowers and vegetables. You usually have a few houses and gardens, and the occasional cat, to take care of for people on holiday, so you can't leave town, but you take it easy, catch up on your paperwork and order in supplies for the fall.

Autumn is one of your favourite times. You help people harvest their vegetable gardens, show them how to dry herbs and decorative flowers. You do some pruning, remove some bulbs to dry and store for next year, plant others to bloom early in the spring, and wrap up delicate trees and shrubs against the winter's chill. Last year several of your more active customers won prizes at flower shows and vegetable exhibitions, so there were some fun parties and bonfires to wind up the season.

Winter is a pleasant time for you. You can sleep in a bit later, for starters. This is the time of year when your elderly and housebound clients take precedence. You visit them at home, doctoring sick or injured plants. You're also starting to learn the Japanese art of growing beautiful miniature bonsai trees. They bring a fine price when they are old and you've decided that this specialty may be your retirement plan when you're older and don't want as much heavy outdoor work.

Winter is also a time for doing maintenance and repairs on equipment and serious business planning. As a small business your record-keeping and tax reports are quite straightforward, but it takes time. In the middle of winter seed and bulb catalogues start to arrive and as always, they set you dreaming about your grandparents' land outside town. Maybe just one greenhouse, to supply your