

Everyone enjoys attractively designed residential areas, public parks and playgrounds, college campuses, shopping centers, golf courses, parkways, and industrial parks. **Landscape Architects** design these areas so that they are not only functional but beautiful and compatible with the natural environment as well. They plan the location of buildings, roads, and walkways and the arrangement of flowers, shrubs, and trees.

Increasingly, landscape architects are becoming involved with projects in environmental remediation, such as preservation and restoration of wetlands. Historic preservation is another important objective to which landscape architects may apply their knowledge of the environment, as well as their design and artistic talents. Many types of organizations—from real estate development firms starting new projects to municipalities constructing airports or parks—hire landscape architects, who are often involved with the development of a site from its conception.

Working with architects, surveyors, and engineers, landscape architects help determine the best arrangement of roads and buildings. They also collaborate with environmental scientists, foresters, and other professionals to find the best way to conserve or restore natural resources. Once these decisions are made, landscape architects create detailed plans indicating new topography, vegetation, walkways, and other landscaping details, such as fountains and decorative features.

Some landscape architects work on a variety of projects. Others specialize in a particular area, such as residential development, historic landscape restoration, waterfront improvement projects, parks and playgrounds, or shopping centers. Still others work in regional planning and resource management; feasibility, environmental impact, and cost studies or site construction.

Salary Information:

- Landscape Architecture, Bachelor's Degree
\$64,000 Median Salary (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2008)
- ***Landscape Architects for the Rochester, New York area:***
\$45,400 Median Salary Range (Career One Stop, 2008)
[*Salary varies based on education/advanced degree, work-experience & setting/location]

Transfer Information:

- A Bachelor's or Master's degree in Landscape Architecture is usually necessary for entry into the profession. The Bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture takes 4 or 5 years to complete.

Additional Information:

- American Society of Landscape Architects: www.asla.org

