

ARIZONA GREEN OCCUPATIONAL PROFILES

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Occupational Profiles: Growth Jobs Requiring Green Skills

The following profile is one of several profiles created to provide background on emerging employment opportunities for key green occupations. Occupations were defined based on Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code used to define occupations within the Occupational Employment Statistics program of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (<http://www.bls.gov/soc/home.htm>). The profiles can be useful to a variety of user groups, including job seekers, new graduates, new-to-career adults, career counselors and others as they seek to understand growing occupations that frequently support green activities or require green skills. For each occupation, wherever data are available, these profiles describe:

I. **What is the job?**

This section provides a description of the job, background on the activities involved, what types of green activities might be performed, and a list of comparable jobs.

II. **Where are the jobs currently?**

This section shows how many people were employed in this occupation (including those green and non-green jobs), how many green positions were available recently, and what industries typically employ workers in this occupation.

III. **What could workers earn in this occupation?**

This section shows the historical average wages associated with all jobs (green and non-green) in these occupations in different parts of the state, as well as the median green wage as advertised in recent online job postings.

IV. **What is the outlook for jobs in this occupation?**

This section shows the extent to which there is projected long-term demand for workers in these occupations. Recognizing that long-term projections data about jobs requiring green skills are not available, the projections include information about all jobs in the occupation.

V. **How do workers prepare for jobs in this occupation?**

This section provides details on the training, certifications, education and work experience required for these occupations. Whenever possible, certifications tied to green-related activities are highlighted.

Occupations profiled were selected using quantitative and qualitative data obtained through research efforts under the Arizona State Labor Market Information Improvement Grant Initiative. Various data sources were used in creating the occupational profiles as outlined below.

- Occupational Information Network (O*NET) data were used as a measure of the skills, knowledge, and abilities required for the occupations. Certification, training, and education related information was also obtained from O*NET (<http://www.onetonline.org/>)
- The Arizona Green Jobs Survey was used to identify and classify the components of the job that are green and common certifications held by green workers within an occupation (<http://azstats.gov/>)
- Employment and wage estimates are from the Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) program. These are estimates of the number of people employed in certain occupations, and estimates of the wages paid to them. Self-employed persons are not included in the estimates. These estimates are for the state, and for metropolitan and nonmetropolitan areas (<http://www.bls.gov/oes/>)
- Postings and wage estimates from advertised online jobs were provided by Burning Glass, a private company. It is to be noted that these are advertised positions and wages that reflect the vacancies

within the occupations and are not necessarily realized employment or earnings (<http://www.burning-glass.com/>)

- Data on the industries employing the workers within respective occupations were obtained from Economic Modeling Specialists Inc. (EMSI) (<http://www.emsinet.com/>)
- Long term employment projections were from the Office of Employment and Population Statistics (<http://azstats.gov/>)
- Focus groups with industry leaders and stakeholders
- Input from the Arizona Project Steering Committee and Green Economy Advisory Committee

Occupations included in these profiles were selected based on anticipated positive job growth. Efforts were made to include a diversity of job types to meet the needs of a variety of job seekers, employers, and trainers. Whenever unique information is available for green occupations, disaggregated data for both green and non-green occupations are provided. Where green data are not available, information provided is an aggregate of both green and non-green (with this data gap noted in the profile). The goal is to provide job seekers, employers, and trainers with the most complete picture available of the status of the occupation and related career opportunities.

General Table Note: Cases where fields are marked N/A indicate that no data were available for the occupation.

I. What is the job?

The focus of this section is to provide a description of the job; background on the activities involved; types of green activities that might be performed within this job; and a list of comparable jobs.

Job description:

Landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Workers typically perform a variety of tasks, which may include any combination of the following: sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking, sprinkler installation, and installation of mortarless segmental concrete masonry wall units.

Source: O*Net OnLine occupational database, <http://www.onetonline.org/>

What do these workers do?

Care for established lawns by mulching, aerating, weeding, grubbing and removing thatch, and trimming and edging around flower beds, walks, and walls.

Decorate gardens with stones and plants.

Follow planned landscaping designs to determine where to lay sod, sow grass, or plant flowers and foliage.

Gather and remove litter.

Maintain and repair tools, equipment, and structures, such as buildings, greenhouses, fences, and benches, using hand and power tools.

Mix and spray or spread fertilizers, herbicides, or insecticides onto grass, shrubs, and trees, using hand or automatic sprayers or spreaders.

Mow and edge lawns, using power mowers and edgers.

Operate vehicles and powered equipment, such as mowers, tractors, twin-axle vehicles, snow blowers, chain saws, electric clippers, sod cutters, and pruning saws.

Plant seeds, bulbs, foliage, flowering plants, grass, ground covers, trees, and shrubs, and apply mulch for protection, using gardening tools.

Provide proper upkeep of sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, fountains, planters, burial sites, and other grounds features.

Prune and trim trees, shrubs, and hedges, using shears, pruners, or chain saws.

Rake, mulch, and compost leaves.

Shovel snow from walks, driveways, and parking lots, and spread salt in those areas.

Trim and pick flowers, and clean flower beds.

Use hand tools such as shovels, rakes, pruning saws, saws, hedge and brush trimmers, and axes.

Water lawns, trees, and plants, using portable sprinkler systems, hoses, or watering cans.

Source: O*Net OnLine occupational database, <http://www.onetonline.org/>

How might this job be green?
Maintain and clear up pollution in irrigation canals
Design, install, maintain environmentally friendly gardens
Repurpose soil and water
Habitat restoration
Manage water use
Recycle grass and trees
Reuse soil and tree boxes
Use cordless, battery powered weed wackers and lawn mowers and trims bushes by hand
Use low to no impact landscaping materials
Use native trees and other plants to lessen the amount of water needed to maintain lawn
Use rock work for landscaping whenever possible
Maintains historic preservation ranch, grounds, and animals
Plant plants with low water intake, install water irrigation systems
Relocate plants; salvage plants from developments and replant into landscapes
Study desert plants and preserve the natural landscape
Use organic fertilizer

Source: Arizona LMI Green Jobs Survey, <http://azstats.gov/>

What are the related occupations that offer jobs for these workers?
Dishwashers
Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation
Nursery Workers
Automotive Glass Installers and Repairers
Cleaners of Vehicles and Equipment
Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand

Source: O*Net OnLine occupational database, <http://www.onetonline.org/>

II. Where are these jobs currently?

This section shows how many people were employed in this occupation (including both green and non-green jobs); how many green positions were available recently; and what industries typically employ workers in this occupation.

How many people do this job? (Data are not available for green jobs within the occupation so this total is based on data that include both green and non-green jobs. Employment numbers do not include self-employed and unpaid family members.)	
Area	Employment Total (May 2010)
Flagstaff, AZ	510
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	390
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	17,170
Prescott, AZ	480
Tucson, AZ	3,100
Yuma, AZ	440
Rest of Arizona	790

Source: OES Employment Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics, (May 2010), <http://www.bls.gov/oes/>

How many green jobs were advertised as available recently? (Based on online job advertisements, April 1 - June 30, 2011)

MSA	All Job Postings	Green* Job Postings
Flagstaff, AZ	1	0
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	0	0
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	134	0
Prescott, AZ	9	0
Tucson, AZ	51	0
Yuma, AZ	1	0
Rest of Arizona	4	0

**Green jobs identified using green definitions from O*Net and refined using a combination of green skills, certifications, and keywords from the advertised job descriptions.*

Source: Burning Glass, <http://www.burning-glass.com/>

Which industries employ workers in this job?

Landscaping Services
Local government
Golf Courses and Country Clubs
Professional Employer Organizations
Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels
All Other Amusement and Recreation Industries
Temporary Help Services
State government
Fitness and Recreational Sports Centers
Residential Property Managers
Bowling Centers
Land Subdivision
Funeral Homes and Funeral Services
Lessors of Residential Buildings and Dwellings
Crop and animal production
RV (Recreational Vehicle) Parks and Campgrounds
Architectural Services
Janitorial Services
Farm Labor Contractors and Crew Leaders
Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Source: EMSI (Economic Modeling Specialists Inc.), <http://www.emsinet.com/>

III. What could workers earn in this occupation?

This section shows the average wages associated with this occupation in different areas of the state, as well as the median green wage as advertised in online job postings.

What are the wages paid to workers in this field? (Data are not available for green jobs within the occupation so this section is based on data that include both green and non-green jobs. Wage estimates do not include self-employed and unpaid family members.)

MSA	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	Median	Mean	75th Percentile	90th Percentile
Flagstaff, AZ	\$16,490	\$18,020	\$21,150	\$23,060	\$27,170	\$32,930
Lake Havasu City-Kingman, AZ	\$16,510	\$19,500	\$22,860	\$24,220	\$27,140	\$35,480
Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	\$16,420	\$18,160	\$21,330	\$23,140	\$26,100	\$34,190
Prescott, AZ	\$16,650	\$20,100	\$24,500	\$25,720	\$30,990	\$36,460
Tucson, AZ	\$16,440	\$18,090	\$21,100	\$22,640	\$25,440	\$31,920
Yuma, AZ	\$15,870	\$17,300	\$20,400	\$22,480	\$26,200	\$32,770
Rest of Arizona	\$16,045	\$17,960	\$21,915	\$23,155	\$26,140	\$31,720

Source: OES Employment Estimates, Bureau of Labor Statistics, (May 2010), <http://www.bls.gov/oes/>

What is the median wage advertised for green workers in this occupation? (Statewide median wages based on advertised salaries in online job postings between March 2010 and March 2011.)

Median Advertised Wage for All Jobs	Median Advertised Wage for Green* Jobs
\$ 20,249	\$ 38,059

*Green jobs identified using green definitions from O*Net and refined using a combination of green skills, certifications, and keywords from the advertised job descriptions.

Source: Burning Glass, <http://www.burning-glass.com/>

IV. What is the outlook for jobs in this occupation?

This section shows the long-term projected outlook for this occupation.

What is the long term outlook for jobs in this occupation? (Data are not available for green jobs within the occupation so this section is based on data that include both green and non-green jobs. Employment numbers include self-employed and unpaid family members as well as wage and salary workers.)

2008 Employment (Estimated)	2018 Employment (Projected)	Change (2008-2018)	Estimated Replacement Needs (2008-2018)*	Estimated Total Openings (2008-2018)**
38,971	42,648	3,677	+	4,688
			=	8,365

*Replacement jobs are estimated by applying a ratio of total national job changes anticipated over the next decade (derived by BLS) to the estimated Arizona 2008 employment

**Openings represent the sum of growth (change) and replacement

Source: Arizona Office of Employment and Population Statistics, <http://azstats.gov/>

V. How do workers prepare for jobs in this occupation?

Training, certification, education, and required work experience information for the occupation, based primarily upon survey results provided by the national O*Net OnLine occupational database.

What are the minimum education levels that employers expect for workers in this occupation? (Required level of education reported by current workers, including green and non-green, in this occupation)

Less than HS	HS Diploma/GED	Post-Secondary Certificate	Some College Courses	Associate's Degree	Bachelor's Degree	Post-Baccalaureate Certificate	Master's Degree	Post-Master's Certificate	Professional Degree	Doctoral Degree
52.2%	25.9%	15.7%	0.2%	1.5%	4.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

% represents the proportion of all workers in the occupation who have attained that education level

Source: O*Net OnLine occupational database, <http://www.onetonline.org/>

What green or other credentials might be expected? (Common certifications held by green workers in this occupation)

Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor - Irrigation Association

Commercial Driver's License

SmartScape Certification for Landscape Professionals

Water Distribution System Operator Certification

Source: Arizona LMI Green Jobs Survey, <http://azstats.gov/>

What experience levels are employers expecting? (Experience reported by current workers, including green and non-green, in this occupation)

None	<6 Months	6 Months - 1 Year	1 - 2 Years	3 - 4 Years	5 - 10 Years	> 10 Years
37.4%	13.5%	16.2%	21.8%	2.3%	8.7%	0.0%

% represents the proportion of all workers in the occupation who have attained that experience level

Source: O*Net OnLine occupational database, <http://www.onetonline.org/>

How much training will employers likely provide? (Training reported by current workers, including green and non-green, in this occupation)

None	<1 Month	1 - 3	3 - 6	6 Months - 1 Year	1 - 2 Years	3 - 4 Years	5 - 10 Years	> 10 Years
34.1%	28.7%	13.5%	7.1%	10.4%	5.4%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%

% represents the proportion of all workers in the occupation who have attained that training level

Source: O*Net OnLine occupational database, <http://www.onetonline.org/>