

## CAREER

### ● Landscape Architecture

#### What would it be like to . . .

- reclaim, rebuild, and reestablish the natural beauty of neglected, polluted sites in your community?
- plan and design gardens for private and public facilities?

These are just a few of the challenges faced by people working in the field of landscape architecture.

#### Landscape Architecture: What Is It?

A landscape architect seeks to enhance or restore an environment's natural balance and beauty. Many landscape architects work with architects and urban planners to design buildings, structures, and urban facilities for public use. Landscape architects also play an active role in education and conservation, working with foresters, biologists, and educators to preserve state and national parks, recreational sites, and wilderness areas.

#### Science/Math Career Preparation

##### High School

- Art
- Drafting
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Earth science

##### College

- Drawing and design
- Ecology
- Botany
- Geology

#### Employment Outlook

The demand for landscape architects will increase dramatically in response to rapid urbanization in all regions of the world.

**CAREER**● **Landscape Architecture** *continued***Bob Murase**  
**Landscape Architect in Portland, Oregon**

*“I would describe myself as an artist and craftsman. I’ve always been interested in art, especially drawing and sculpting. I had a part-time job helping a local mason build stone walls in San Francisco. This experience not only allowed me to use my imagination and develop my skills as an artist, but also taught me to appreciate the grand and subtle forms of natural beauty that surround us all. Through further, formal studies of the natural sciences, I’ve developed a keen understanding of the delicate balances in nature.”*

*What I Do: “I went to college to study landscape architecture. Afterward I worked for a firm in San Francisco. When I felt I had enough experience and confidence, I started my own landscape architecture company. That was 15 years ago. Today I have the satisfaction of working with professionals on projects in many different parts of the world. We all have the same goal—to make the environment more pleasant and productive. I’m particularly excited about our work with teachers and students in a local school. We’re helping them design real ecological projects that will benefit their communities now and in the future.”*

**To Find Out More**

1. For further information, write to:  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
4401 Connecticut Avenue NW  
5th Floor  
Washington, DC 20008
2. Visit your school counselor and library to find out which colleges and universities offer programs in landscape architecture. Review the prerequisites and course requirements. Make a poster showing the range of skills involved in this career.
3. Locate resources that contain sketches, photos, or graphics of landscape architecture. Evaluate the architect’s design, and prepare a brief critique that explains how you would alter it.