



## Landscape Restoration, Indigenous Ecology Training and Employment Pathways

“As cultural attitudes, government policies, and the natural environment itself shift, new skills needs and job roles are emerging in the amenity horticulture, landscaping and conservation and land management sector”

“The Parks & Gardens Training package is currently being reviewed given industry has moved to focus on more sustainable practices to promote biodiversity, adapt to climate change and acknowledge the cultural significance of Australian Parks & Gardens”

“Knowledge of the impacts of human activities on the environment are needed to conserve Australia’s vast and varied nature reserves and bushland.”

“Skills in ecology need to be incorporated, so that graduates in any conservation and land management related sector finish their training with an understanding of how their work can impact the environment, and the skills and knowledge required to make this a positive impact”

“Consultation with industry experts... has identified a more suitable description of the current Landscape and Conservation Management sector to be **Conservation and Ecosystem Management**”

*Quotes from Skills Impact – Amenity Horticulture, Landscaping, Conservation & Land Management Industry Reference Committee.*

There are a range of industry pathways individuals can take from this LRIE course in:

- Conservation and Land Management (*to become Conservation & Ecosystem Management*)
- Horticulture
- Parks & Gardens
- Landscape Design

The roles individuals may be engaged in are varied and encompass a range of job titles such as:

- Horticulturalist
- Natural Areas Coordinator
- Bushland Regenerator
- Conservation Worker/Officer
- Landscape Designer
- Landscaping Assistant
- Landscape Architect
- Urban Planner
- Park Ranger
- Environmental Operator
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Planning Officer

Organisations and industries that employ individuals engaged in one or more of these areas include:

- Specialist landscaping companies
- Local Councils
- State Government bodies such as Parks Victoria

- Environmental Services Consultancies
- Agencies such as the Merri Creek Management Committee

There is also the option of self-employment through setting up a small business.

### **General Careers Planning Tools/Resources**

There are a range of general Careers Planning Tools and Resources that can be accessed for free: The Community Career Hub [www.communitycareerhub.com.au/](http://www.communitycareerhub.com.au/) is a site funded by ACFE and aims to assist anyone interested in exploring work and study options to further develop their career.

Information and resources on the hub will help you to:

- Prepare for [employment](#)
- Find relevant [training and education information](#)
- Explore [occupation and industry information](#)
- Discover your [career interests](#)
- Clarify your [skills and values](#)
- Set goals and [create a career action plan](#)

Others to look at are [www.YourCareer.gov.au](http://www.YourCareer.gov.au) and [www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au)

There are also a range of Skills & Job Centres co-located with TAFEs that provide independent advice on study and employment options <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/pathways/skillsandjobscentres/>

### **Accredited Training Pathways**

Below is a list of **current** VET qualifications that may be pathways to roles in Horticulture, Landscaping, Parks & Gardens and/or Conservation & Land Management. To find out more about specific courses you can visit the website of Victorian Skills Gateway at [www.skills.vic.gov.au](http://www.skills.vic.gov.au)

You can undertake VET qualifications full or part-time at TAFEs such as Melbourne Polytechnic, Swinburne, Kangan and Holmesglen.

| <b>Industry Sector</b>     | <b>Courses</b>  |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Horticulture</b>        | Cert II in Horticulture AHC20416<br>Cert III in Horticulture AHC30716 (including Apprenticeships)<br>Cert IV in Horticulture AHC40416<br>Diploma of Horticulture AHC50416                 |
| <b>Landscaping</b>         | Cert II in Landscaping AHC21616<br>Cert III in Landscape Construction AHC30916 (including Apprenticeships)<br>Cert IV in Landscape AHC42016<br>Diploma of Landscape Design AHC50616       |
| <b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b> | Cert II in Parks & Garden AHC20616<br>Cert III in Parks & Garden AHC31016 (including Traineeships)<br>Cert IV in Parks & Garden AHC40516<br>Diploma of Parks & Garden Management AHC50716 |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Conservation &amp; Land Management (to become Conservation &amp; Ecosystem Management)</b> | Cert II in Conservation & Land Management AHC21016<br>Cert III in Conservation & Land Management AHC31416 (including Apprenticeships/Traineeships)<br>Cert IV in Conservation & Land Management AHC40916<br>Diploma of Conservation & Land Management AHC51116 |
|---|--|

Undertaking CERES accredited 3 unit Certificate II Horticulture/Permaculture Taster course can be a way of testing out whether accredited training is for you. Details for this course can be found on our website.

Free and low cost VET courses are being funded under the national JobTrainer scheme for job seekers and young people aged 17-24. For an up to date list of Job Trainer opportunities visit [www.myskills.gov.au/jobtrainer](http://www.myskills.gov.au/jobtrainer)

In 2021 Victorian TAFEs are offering 'FREE' Certificates and some Diplomas in identified skills shortage areas. The list of those offered includes Certificate III Horticulture. For further details on eligibility and the full list of qualifications visit [www.vic.gov.au/free-tafe](http://www.vic.gov.au/free-tafe). Please note that these courses will still incur amenities and materials fees.

### **Apprenticeships/Traineeships**

Apprenticeships or Traineeships, where you combine paid employment and study, are available at Certificate III level and you can investigate these further at: [www.aapathways.com.au](http://www.aapathways.com.au)

### **University Pathways**

For those looking at study beyond VET you can study a BSc at a range of universities where you can major in environmental science or similar. Examples are Melbourne University (Bachelor of Science with Major in Environmental Science) or VU (Bachelor of Science with Major in Ecology and Environmental Management).

There are also postgraduate qualifications such as the Master of Ecosystem Management & Conservation at Melbourne University.

### **Self-employment**

The option of setting up your own business can be explored further at: [www.business.gov.au/guide/starting](http://www.business.gov.au/guide/starting); [www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/starting-a-business/how-to-set-up-a-business](http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-and-careers/starting-a-business/how-to-set-up-a-business);

You may also be eligible for financial, mentoring and training assistance to set up a new business through the NEIS program: [www.jobs.gov.au/self-employment-new-business-assistance-neis](http://www.jobs.gov.au/self-employment-new-business-assistance-neis)

### **Volunteering Opportunities**

Volunteering is a valuable way to build some hands-on experience and knowledge as well as gain useful contacts and potential future job referees.

CERES, like many other organisations, has a range of horticulture volunteering opportunities advertised on it's website: <https://ceres.org.au/volunteer/>

There are a range of Agencies and Friends Groups such as the Merri Creek Management Committee [www.mcmc.org.au](http://www.mcmc.org.au) and Darebin Creek Friends <https://dcmc.org.au/get-involved/friends-of-darebin-creek/> who have volunteer opportunities for those wanting to take part in Community Planting Events or as part of Ecological Restoration Teams.

Check out the following website for more links: [www.conservationvolunteers.com.au](http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au) [environmental.volunteering@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:environmental.volunteering@delwp.vic.gov.au) and <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity/volunteering>

Many organisations advertise beyond their own website so it's also worth looking at opportunities listed with Volunteering Victoria on <http://volunteeringvictoria.org.au/go-volunteer/> or Seek on <http://volunteer.com.au>

### **Employment Opportunities**

Whether you are currently looking for a job in this field or are simply conducting research on what jobs are currently being advertised and what qualifications/experience are being asked for the following may be useful:

Local Councils usually have details of jobs available on their websites eg. [www.moreland.vic.gov.au/about-us/careers-at-moreland/](http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/about-us/careers-at-moreland/)

There are also a range of general employment sites such as [www.seek.org.au](http://www.seek.org.au), [www.gumtree.com.au](http://www.gumtree.com.au), [www.ethicaljobs.com.au](http://www.ethicaljobs.com.au)

There is also currently the Working for Victoria scheme for those unemployed or have recently experienced a significant reduction in income. Further details can be found at <https://jobs.vic.gov.au/help-for-jobseekers/register-to-find-job-and-training-opportunities>