



Now Hiring: *Horticulturist*

FULL-TIME · PARKS DIVISION · BURLINGTON, IOWA | SALARY: \$52,000 – \$62,000 DOQ
| POSTED: MAY 6, 2026 | CLOSES: JUNE 6, 2026



Shape Burlington's green spaces — and grow your career where nature meets community.

About the Position

The City of Burlington Parks & Recreation Department is seeking a skilled and passionate **Horticulturist** to lead year-round horticultural care across our parks, medians, rights-of-way, and public green spaces. Reporting to the Parks Superintendent, you'll plan and install beautiful plantings, manage plant health, and help Burlington shine through every season. While some direction of seasonal helpers is part of the role, the primary focus is hands-on horticultural expertise and stewardship of our community's green spaces.

This is an opportunity to make a visible, lasting difference in a community that takes pride in its parks and outdoor spaces along the scenic Mississippi River.

What You'll Do

- Plan, install & maintain annuals, perennials, shrubs & ornamental plantings
- Monitor plant health; diagnose pests, diseases & nutrient deficiencies
- Apply herbicides, pesticides & fertilizers per state/federal regulations
- Operate tractors, mowers, chainsaws, irrigation systems & more
- Support grant writing, capital projects & public education events
- Develop landscape designs and multi-year maintenance schedules
- Implement integrated pest management practices
- Provide occasional direction to seasonal helpers & volunteers as needed
- Coordinate with city departments, contractors & community partners
- Help with tree plantings, educational events and ornamental pruning

Qualifications

- Associate degree in Horticulture, Landscape Technology, Plant Science or related field required; Bachelor's preferred
- Minimum 2 years of professional horticulture or landscape maintenance experience; municipal experience a plus
- Supervisory experience preferred
- Valid Iowa Driver's License required
- Iowa Commercial Ornamental & Turf Pesticide License preferred (or ability to obtain within 120 days)
- Must pass Burlington Police Department background investigation

POSITION DETAILS

- Full-Time, Year-Round
- Non-Union Classification
- Salary: \$52,000 – \$62,000 DOQ
- Reports to Parks Superintendent
- City of Burlington Personnel Policy

KEY SKILLS NEEDED

- Plant ID & Soil Science
- Irrigation Systems
- IPM Practices
- Record Keeping & Reporting
- Landscape Design
- Equipment Operation

BENEFITS INCLUDE

Health & Dental Coverage · Retirement Plan · Paid Leave · Professional Development · Certification Support · Stable Municipal Employment

Why Burlington, Iowa?

Burlington is a welcoming river city of approximately 25,000 nestled along the mighty Mississippi River in southeast Iowa — a place where quality of life is high and the cost of living is refreshingly affordable. With a rich history, vibrant arts scene, and a close-knit community spirit, Burlington offers the best of small-town charm with access to everything you need. Our stunning parks system — anchored by the beloved historic Crapo Park — features sweeping river views, mature tree canopies, and gorgeous curated landscapes that are the community's pride and joy. As our new Horticulturist, you'll help maintain and grow this legacy every single day.

LOCATION

Southeast Iowa on the Mississippi River

COST OF LIVING

Well below national average

OUTDOOR LIFE

Parks, trails, river recreation & more

COMMUNITY

Welcoming, family-friendly city

Ready to Grow with Us? Apply Today.

Submit a cover letter, résumé, and contact information for three professional references by June 6, 2026.

Apply online at burlingtoniowa.org/jobs or contact Human Resources:

Becky Carl · (319) 753-8161 · 400 Washington St, 3rd Floor, Burlington, IA 52601

Equal Opportunity Employer

The City of Burlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or disability.

