

Summer Student – Horticulture

Job Status: Full -time Summer Student

Division: Community Services

Department: Recreation and Parkland Planning

Union: No union affiliation

Salary: \$17.60 - \$19.60

Closing Date: March 1, 2026

About the City of Sarnia

Located at the mouth of the St. Clair River on the shores of Lake Huron, the community of Sarnia is known for its breathtaking waterfront, pristine beaches and beautiful parks system. Situated on the American border, just a short drive from London, Ontario, the community boasts a host of recreational opportunities, state-of-the-art healthcare, a vibrant cultural scene, and excellent education paired with a high standard of living and mild climate.

Ranked one of the most affordable medium-sized cities in Ontario, Sarnia, with its 72,000 residents, is home to over 1,000 acres of parkland and 40 km of trails in addition to 4 golf courses, 16 art galleries, 6 museums, and 3 theatres across the County.

The Role

One thing Sarnia is known for in the summer time is our beautiful flowers.

Our Horticulture summer students help with maintaining garden beds, planters, and hanging baskets consisting of annuals and perennials across the City of Sarnia. Maintenance includes weeding, planting, watering, mulching, and rototilling.

Working conditions include physical labour with moderate to heavy lifting, the use of hand tools and small landscaping equipment (mowers, trimmers, rototillers), and requires mental alertness to ensure the safety of yourself and others.

Vacancies: Up to 5

Term

Please note that the anticipated term of employment will be:

- May 4, 2026 – August 14, 2026

Successful candidates will be expected to be available for the full duration of the employment term.

Mandatory Training

Additionally, all student employees must be available to attend mandatory training, which will be scheduled as follows:

- Monday, May 4, 2026 & Tuesday, May 5, 2026

Requirements

- Current student, returning to full-time studies in September, 2026
- Valid G2 drivers licence with an abstract acceptable to City guidelines
- Safety conscious and always demonstrate safe work practices
- Follow instructions well
- Excellent teamwork skills
- Ability to communicate effectively in a professional manner

Working Conditions

- Outdoors in all weather conditions
- Physical labour
- Operating hand tools and small landscaping equipment, mowers, trimmers, rototillers

Hours of Work

- 40 hours per week
- Shift work including weekdays, weekends, evenings and holidays

Why Work With Us

It's an opportunity to work in a dynamic and collaborative environment where your organizational skills, attention to detail, and professionalism will be highly valued.

For temporary employees, the City offers competitive salaries, access to our Employee & Family Assistance Plan (EFAP), and the option to enrol in the OMERS (Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System) pension plan.

We are an inclusive and equitable Corporation that encourages applications from qualified individuals of all genders, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and Indigenous persons. Appropriate accommodations will be provided upon request throughout the hiring process as required by the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Information received relating to accommodation and diversity will be addressed confidentially.

Personal information is being collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used to determine the qualifications for employment with The Corporation of the City of Sarnia. Questions about this collection should be directed to the City Clerk, 255 Christina St. N., Sarnia, ON N7T 7N2, 519-332-0330 ext. 3366.

Please note this recruitment is for existing vacancies.

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