

Course Title:	Landscape Maintenance and Equipment Operation
Grade(s):	11th/12th

Course Description
This course will involve the skills and knowledge of maintaining quality landscapes. Students will learn and demonstrate shrub and tree pruning, landscape fertilization, and proper irrigation. Weed, insect, and disease control of landscape areas will be covered. Students will learn to operate common landscape equipment, including chainsaws, lawn mowers, power blowers, and utility vehicles. Students will earn OSHA certification for safe equipment operations.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)
<i>Landscaping Principles and Practices</i>, 7th Edition

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Introduction to Landscape Design and Implementation	During this introductory unit, students jump right in and learn the basics of Landscape Design and Installation. Students demonstrate this knowledge by competing in the Big E Landscape Design competition. Students develop a landscape based on the theme for the competition, then choose different plants and hardscape materials to incorporate as well. Students get a basic lesson on scale drawing/design and complete a visual representation of their competition design as well.	2 weeks
Unit 2: Careers and Safety in the Landscape Industry	During this unit, students learn about the different tools and equipment that are used in the landscape industry. Students research a specific type of tool and create an informational presentation and poster on how to use it safely. Students also learn how to run safety and maintenance checks on all the equipment used for Suffield Agriscience. Students demonstrate their knowledge and skill by completing any repairs or maintenance needs on the equipment before and after usage. Students also research different career opportunities in the landscape industry, and complete an application, resume, and interview for a landscaper position at Suffield Regional Agriscience.	3 weeks

Unit 3: Introduction to Landscape Construction	Throughout this unit, students will identify and demonstrate different methods of landscape construction and material installation. Students will identify different ways to install plants (annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, etc.) and demonstrate their installation/maintenance methods in class. Students will also create an installation plan for a specific project of their choosing. This project allows students to create a design, develop an implementation plan with a site evaluation, and provide any maintenance needed after the project is completed.	3 weeks
Unit 4: Installation Methods of Hardscapes and Equipment Usage	During this unit, students will identify different hardscapes that are used in a landscape, and demonstrate how to install them. Students will learn about different materials and methods of hardscape installation, and learn how to construct different patterns with bricks, retaining wall blocks, paver stones, and other types of edging. Students will demonstrate their ability to construct a retaining wall and evaluate their performance and the quality of the structure itself. Also, throughout this unit, students will identify and demonstrate their knowledge of the operation of different landscape tools. Students will become proficient in using the string trimmer, edger, pole saw, backpack blower, and zero-turn mower. Students may also have the opportunity to become more proficient in the use of the skidsteer, UTV, and chainsaws.	4 weeks
Unit 5: Landscape Maintenance and Pesticide Usage	During this unit, students will demonstrate different softscape and hardscape maintenance skills to help a landscape look and stay at its best. Students will demonstrate techniques like edging, pruning, mulching, grading/leveling, and plant relocation. Students will also learn about the importance of plant care in relation to fertilizing (specialty plants). Also in this unit, students will identify different pesticides and demonstrate their usage in class. Students will identify different PPE needed to handle pesticides, as well as how to read and interpret a pesticide label/instructions.	4 weeks
Unit 6: Landscape Business Principles	During this unit, students may have the opportunity to tour/visit a local landscape business and learn about the behind-the-scenes work that goes into running a nursery landscape operation. Students will interview a landscape business of their choosing, and work on a final project that encompasses all they have learned throughout the semester	2 weeks