

**Preparation Phase
(30 minutes)**

Because of your leadership position in your horticulture program and FFA, your horticulture instructor has given you the task of planning and organizing a horticulture field day with emphasis on landscape maintenance and installation skills for students that are in the 8th and 9th grades in your local school(s). The purpose is to increase interest and enrollment in your school's horticulture program. The field day experience should (1) promote interest in the high school horticulture program, (2) demonstrate typical skills, and (3) inform participants of careers in horticulture. There will be approximately fifty 8th and 9th grade students participating. The field day will be held during school hours from 12:00 noon until 2:45 p.m. and will be conducted inside as well as outside.

Your team is to serve as the organizing group. You may use other senior students to help but the planning is your responsibility. You are to conduct a brain-storming session and prepare a plan for this event and present the plan to your horticulture instructor for approval.

- The event should be designed with stations for demonstration and hands-on activities for some participants.
- Brainstorm how you want to break the students into groups.
- Brainstorm how many stations will be used - with a minimum of five stations.
- Brainstorm the amount of time to allow for each station.
- Brainstorm the student rotations along with a rotation/flow chart.
- Brainstorm what activity will be conducted at each station and prepare a general list of the top three items of equipment or supplies required to conduct each activity.
- You may decide to ask local businesses, to help with supplies, equipment, etc., or to serve as speakers. If so, determine who is going to contact the businesses.
- You may invite community college, technical school or university personnel to present their horticulture program offerings and career opportunities
- As an incentive for the participants, you might decide to award prizes or gifts such as - T-shirts and caps. You may decide to give one to everyone or have a drawing, etc.
- Plan for an event evaluation that each participant completes after the field day to determine student interest in the events as well as their interest in your horticulture and the high school program.
- You might use some of the skills you have learned in preparation for the National FFA Nursery/Landscape CDE as part of your field day.

**Presentation Phase
(15 minutes)**

In this phase, you are presenting your plans to your horticulture instructor (Judge) for approval. The plan should be presented verbally by your committee as well as physically give her/him (judge) a written copy of the detailed plans.

Note: You might want to use this activity in your local school/FFA chapter and try it at your local school/FFA chapter after the National FFA Nursery and Landscape CDEI.