Environmental Horticulture in New England:

❖ **is many** types of businesses...
   There are more than 9,500 firms in the region. These include wholesale and retail nurseries and greenhouses, retail garden centers and florists, and landscape and tree services.

❖ **is growing**...
   Since the previous survey, industry income grew an estimated ten percent. Income increased an average 31 percent per firm, for two-thirds of the firms.

❖ **provides many jobs**...
   At least 131,000 people are employed in this industry. An additional 36,000 employees are needed. An estimated 68,000 jobs are full-time. This industry paid an estimated $2.24 billion to employees in 2001. Since the previous survey, an average 33 percent more was spent on labor.

❖ **supports the economy**...
   Businesses paid an estimated $362 million in taxes, an average increase of 27 percent since the previous survey.

❖ **is protecting agricultural land and green space.**
   This industry is keeping more than 177,000 acres in agriculture. More than 75,000 of those acres are open space.
According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Environmental Horticulture is the fastest growing sector of American agriculture today—and New England’s overall contribution to this growth is significant. The value added to our local economy through New England’s wholesale nursery and greenhouse growers, retail garden centers and florists, landscape and tree care services in 2001 surpassed $4 billion. Additionally, the Environmental Horticulture Industry substantially impacts the region through our active stewardship of the environment.

The study surveyed New England’s Environmental Horticulture Industry—comprising more than 9,500 businesses that earn at least half their income from green industry activities. The results clearly quantify the many positive ways this industry affects the regional economy including our volume of business, cost of doing business, employment opportunities, tax contributions and future growth potential.

Our industry is made up of multi-generation, family businesses whose hard work in challenging conditions has put New England on the map as producing the country’s hardiest plants. This success coupled with cutting-edge garden centers, innovative landscape contractors and designers, progressive tree care professionals and other visionary members of the regional green industry, promises a continuing bright future for Environmental Horticulture in New England.

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