September 2026

Student Connection

CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

Samuel Ressler

Independence



Samuel Ressler, a student at Independence High School, is making the most of his time at CVCC as a student in the Parks & Environmental Resources program, instructed by Jason Hance. For Sam, enrolling in the program was an easy decision. He has spent the last few years working for Down to Earth Landscaping, where his dad serves as Vice President, giving him a strong foundation and familiarity with the landscaping industry before even stepping into the classroom. However, Sam was eager to take his knowledge to the next level and learn more about the areas of landscaping he hasn't had as much experience with, such as irrigation. After just a month at CVCC, Sam says his experience has already become one of the highlights of his time in school. "The last month or so at CVCC has been the best of my entire schooling," he shared. "Mr. Hance is such an incredible instructor. He leads by example and has so much patience. I can confidently say that everyone in our class loves the program, and we're all learning so much in such a short amount of time."

For Sam, one of the best parts of the program is the opportunity to learn alongside new people while gaining hands-on experience. He enjoys being able to learn a skill in lecture and then immediately apply it in the lab, as well as learning practical skills that he can carry with him beyond the classroom. "It's such a great environment here, and I'm learning actual life skills, like money skills, that I may not otherwise learn," he said. "I learn something new every day. I'm never bored here." His main goal during his time at CVCC is simple: learn as much as he can. He is especially looking forward to earning his OSHA certifications and continuing to build skills that will benefit him in the landscaping industry.

After high school, Sam hopes to continue working for Down to Earth Landscaping. He also plans to attend college to pursue real estate, business, or a related field. Outside of school, Sam stays busy working and spending time with friends, whether they're dirt biking or working on their cars. He says you'll rarely find him sitting around doing nothing. "I love keeping busy, and I especially love being outside. I love my job. I always look forward to landscaping, being outside and getting my hands dirty." When asked what he would say to other students considering attending CVCC, Sam kept it simple: "You'll love it here. I look forward to coming here every day. I'm grateful to be in this program." Keep up the great work, Sam! We can't wait to see where your journey takes you!

Written By: Makayla Taylor, CVCC Media Specialist