

"Nick is one of the hardest workers I know."

- Jaci Banwell

**Nick Olson - City of Webster City, Graceland Cemetery
Caretaker**



"Nick is one of the hardest workers I know," says Jaci Banwell, who has worked as a job developer at NIVC Services, Inc. for the Hamilton County area for the past two years. "He has stamina that doesn't quit, and it takes a lot of physical strength to use a commercial weed-whacker."

Nick Olson smiles at this compliment. In addition to his job, he likes to run 5K races on weekends and is an entrepreneur. "I have my own lawn mowing business," he says. "It's called Nick's Happy Guy Mowing. I wanted extra work to earn more money though, so I met with Jaci to help me find a job. I've been working at Graceland Cemetery since April and I love my job there!"

Nick works with a crew of 8-10 city maintenance employees on a wide variety of tasks at the cemetery. "I do the weed-whacking around the headstones, pick up sticks, plant and water new trees, clean the shop, rake, and help level the stones if they're tipping. There's always something to do out there, because we want to keep everything looking nice." Nick is accommodated with a partner to work with during each shift. He started out working three hours per day, but has been able to increase his hours to as much as 25 hours per week. "It's very important to work hard together," he says.

Nick is quick to point out the benefits of a good income, too: "The extra money helps me out a lot, because I like to buy presents for my girlfriend! I like that I can make money by doing something that's fun for me." Jaci agrees. "He texts me nearly every day, saying 'work is great.' He really appreciates his job."

Because of the partnership with NIVC and the team at Graceland Cemetery, Nick works up to 25 hours a week at a job he loves!