

SENIOR GROUNDS WORKER/GARDENER

DEFINITION

To perform a variety of mechanical repairs and preventative maintenance, to perform a variety of semi-skilled and skilled gardening and turf maintenance duties; and to operate a wide variety of equipment, such as street sweeper and tractor in the maintenance of paved areas.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the advanced journey level class in the Grounds Worker/Gardener series. This class performs a full range of duties, possesses advanced technical expertise and is assigned specialized duties. All positions assigned to the class work independently, exercising judgment and initiative in performing maintenance and repair work on the equipment used by the Grounds Worker/Gardeners. This class is distinguished from the Grounds Worker/Gardener II level by the performance of major mechanical repairs.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from the Building and Grounds Manager or Operations Supervisor.

Technical or functional supervision may also be provided by higher level department personnel.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Perform major mechanical repairs and preventative maintenance on mowing equipment, hand and power tools, and other grounds/gardening equipment; tear down gas and diesel engines and rebuild engines from stripped blocks.

Water, weed, trim, aerate and fertilize lawns; plant and prune shrubs, trees and flower beds.

Perform a wide variety of general grounds work including raking leaves, cleaning walkways, removing debris from ditches, placing and removing sod, and related work.

Spade and otherwise prepare ground around plants and shrubs.

Mix and apply fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides.

Operate, maintain, and repair sprinklers and irrigation equipment.

Operate power mowers, edgers, sprayers, forklifts, tractors, chain saws and related equipment.

Drive vehicles used to transport materials, tools and equipment as required.

Respond to inquiries from the general public.

Repair and install electric and hydraulic clocks for sprinkler systems.

(Over)

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (CONTINUED)

Install electric pumps; repair and adjust main pump station.

Perform related duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Maintenance and repair of a wide variety of equipment.
Methods, tools, materials, and equipment used in grounds maintenance work.
Plant and turf pests and diseases, and methods for their control and eradication.
Safe work practices.
Operational characteristics of equipment utilized by the district.
Basic construction and repair methods.

Skill to:

Perform unskilled and semiskilled tasks in landscape maintenance work.
Operate a variety of light and/or heavy mechanical equipment.
Mix and apply herbicides.
Perform heavy manual labor.
Establish and maintain cooperative work relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Experience and Training

Any combination of experience and training that would likely provide the required knowledge and skills is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and skills would be:

Experience:

Two years of experience performing duties comparable to those of a Grounds Worker/Gardener II including maintenance and repair of various types of equipment.

Training:

Equivalent to completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by courses in repair and maintenance of mechanical and electrical equipment.

License or Certificate:

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid California driver's license.