

GARDENER I

DEFINITION:

Under supervision, to perform a variety of grounds and gardening maintenance work; and to perform other job-related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

Positions in this class are distinguished from Gardener 2 in that the latter requires a State of California pesticide application certificate and is engaged in pesticide application on an on-going basis.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Depending on the assignment, duties may include but are not limited to the following.

Waters lawns, shrubs, hedges, trees and flowers using a variety of irrigation equipment.

Assists in the planting, transplanting, maintaining, pruning, trimming, and fertilizing of plants, shrubs, hedges, trees and other school landscaped areas.

Uses hand tools to work soil, remove weeds, undergrowth, and debris from school grounds and landscaped areas.

Mows, tills, seeds, and fertilizes lawn areas.

Drives, loads, delivers to destination and unloads District trucks used in the transport of grounds and gardening supplies, equipment, cuttings and debris.

Cleans and makes routine adjustments and minor repairs to equipment, including but not limited to sprinkler systems.

Confers with principal regarding special problems.

Assists with maintenance of playgrounds.

Rids school grounds of garden insects and rodents.

Operates power grounds equipment which may include mowers, leaf blowers, chippers, weed whackers, pole and standard chain saws and similar equipment.

Performs spot spraying for weed control, if qualified.

Picks up litter and debris from parking lots, courts and lawn areas.

Assists with maintenance and marking of sports fields.

May provide direction to other District grounds workers.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of:

Safe work practices including OSHA regulations, as they relate to the position;

Tools, materials, equipment and standard practices of gardening and groundskeeping work;

Safe and legal usage of common pesticides;

Integrated, environmentally safe pest management practices.

Ability to:

Safely use a variety of hand and power tools of gardening and groundskeeping work;

Perform heavy manual labor including but not limited to the ability to lift up to 50 lbs. without assistance and up to 100 with proper tools or assistance;

Read and speak English at a level sufficient to successfully perform the duties associated with the position;

Identify workplace hazards and/or unsafe conditions and take appropriate action to correct same;

Understand and carry out oral and written directions;

Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Education: Equivalent to completion of high school. Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for the required education on a year for year basis up to a maximum of four years.

Experience: One year of commercial/industrial grounds maintenance/gardening experience.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES:

Possession of a valid California driver's license with no restrictions which would preclude driving on the job is a continuous requirement.

OTHER CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

In accordance with California law and the Education Code, position incumbents must maintain a conviction free Dept. of Justice background record which is relevant to the position.

Salary Range: 64

N: 12/68, R: 03/80, R: 11/85, R: 11/91, R: 10/98