



GARDENER 1

Department: Facilities Management
Job Class #: 405400
Pay Range: Maintenance/Trades 08

FLSA: Non-exempt
Represented: Yes

Classification descriptions are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in this class and are not intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.

GENERAL FUNCTION

Employees of this class are responsible for cultivating and caring for ornamental plants and lawns on County properties. Duties involve mowing lawns, fertilizing, pruning, trimming, spraying and transplanting plants, shrubs and trees. Work involves the use and maintenance of hand and power tools and the ability to work outdoors. Work is performed in accordance with standard procedures and is reviewed by a supervisor through direct observation of results attained. Performance of more difficult and responsible tasks may be required to aid in the development of the employee for future advancement. Work is assigned and reviewed for thoroughness, timeliness, and conformance with instructions and quality standards by supervisor personnel. The incumbents are expected to work independently with limited supervision.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- In greenhouses, plants flower seeds and propagates plants, blends, mixes and sterilizes soils. Rotates plants as needed, keeps track of plant inventory.
- Cultivates, irrigates and fertilizes flower gardens, lawns, shrubs and trees.
- Prepares, fertilizes, and conditions soils for different turf, flowers and plants; watches for pests, diseases or other deteriorating agents and takes necessary steps for their eradication. Sprays turf, plants, shrubs and trees in order to control diseases and pests.
- Plants grasses, flowers and shrubs, designs flower beds, makes recommendations for plant species to be used.
- Lays sod, installs irrigation system and performs duties associated with other related gardening or landscaping projects.
- Mows grass using various types of mowing equipment, trims hedges, prunes and removes trees and plants as needed.
- Maintains, operates and repairs related tools and equipment, including mowers, trimmers, hand and power tools.
- Maintains, operates and repairs irrigation systems.
- Maintains shop areas, greenhouse and coldframe
- Keeps routine records related to equipment, supplies and plant inventory.

OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS

- May serve as lead worker on special projects.
- Occasionally operates lift trucks, backhoes, loaders, trenchers and dump trucks or other equipment as needed to complete special projects.
- Performs related work as required.

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KNOWLEDGE, SKILL AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge of standards, principles, methods, and practices involved in cultivating and caring for plants, flowers, shrubs, trees and lawns, and horticulture procedures.
- Some knowledge of landscaping and floral design.
- Some knowledge of soils and types of fertilizers used to grow and care for plants.
- Knowledge of horticultural diseases and pests.
- Ability to operate assigned equipment skillfully, safely and in conformance with applicable requirements.
- Ability to maintain and perform minor repairs on mowers, trimmers, sprayers and related equipment.
- Ability to perform heavy manual labor and work on hands and knees outdoors for extended periods of time and in all types of weather conditions.
- Ability to maintain accurate records.
- Ability to obtain a pesticide and herbicide certification within one year of hire date.
- Ability to bend, stoop, climb, and walk over uneven terrain.
- Ability to use hand tools at an acceptable level of proficiency as required for the position.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with co-workers, supervisors, and the general public.
- Ability to work without continual supervision and be self motivated.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships.
- Ability to physically perform the essential job functions.
- Ability to meet the traveling requirements of the position.

RECRUITING REQUIREMENTS

One or more years of experience working in a green house, nursery or closely related field. Possession or ability to obtain a valid Washington State Driver's license. Possession of or ability to obtain a valid First Aid and CPR Certification. Possession of or ability to obtain a valid Washington State Public Pesticide License. Satisfactory physical condition may be required, as indicated by a County-approved physical examination.