

GROUNDS IRRIGATION SPECIALIST/GROUNDSKEEPER

DEFINITION

This specification describes the classification used to perform skilled tasks in the installation and repair of ground irrigation systems and operation to perform gardening and grounds maintenance work.

TYPICAL DUTIES

Designs sprinkler systems; determines source of water and pressure, soil type, location of valves and triangulation of sprinklers; develops material lists and pipe specifications; installs new systems by trenching, connecting to existing water supply, installing back-flow devices, connecting valves, lines and cross-connections, heads, valve boxes, controllers, booster pumps and other components; pressure check systems and adjusts heads; repairs or replaces broken sprinkler lines, manual or automatic valves, sprinkler heads, automatic controllers, booster pumps, flow switches and other related equipment; inspects and adjusts controllers for timing and duration of operation; programs solid state and other controls and clocks; repairs and installs plastic/copper/galvanized pipes and fittings; rebuilds sprinkler heads, control valves, time clocks and other system components; fabricates parts and modifies systems; cleans out lines; reads and interprets blueprints and sketches; prepares sketches; prepares sketches of system designs; operates trenchers, post hole diggers, back hoe, jackhammers; light truck and other equipment; prepares daily records of work performed; performs related plumbing tasks and routing backfill of holes and trenches; maintains inventory of parts and supplies.

Under supervision, performs general grounds maintenance work, sweeping walks and parking areas, picking up papers and rubbish, raking leaves and weeding; maintains sprinkler systems, installing and repairing sprinkler heads and lines; plants, cultivates and cares for lawns, ornamental plants, shrubs, trees and flowers; prunes trees, resods and otherwise repairs lawns and playing areas; mixes and applies insecticides and herbicides using hand-operated and power-driven sprayers; maintains athletic fields; burns and marks lines for athletic contest; assists in setup for athletic events and/or community services activities; install sign posts, benches, parking bumpers and security gates; operates and services equipment including power sweeper, lawnmower, gang mover, rototiller, trenching machine, front-end loader and forklift; may drive trucks, tractors; may oversee student help or temporary personnel assigned to groundskeeping; assists ground maintenance technicians with grounds maintenance work; performs other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

EXPERIENCE

One year of gardening or grounds maintenance experience; OR one year of experience in Los Rios Community College District as a custodian or related type work, plus several horticulture classes. Experience in the installation and repair of automatic sprinkler systems, time clocks and controllers, preferably with large commercial systems, is desirable.

EDUCATION

Completion of course necessary to obtain forklift operator certificate or qualify for certificate by taking course within six months of hire.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possess and maintain a valid California Driver's License in compliance with Los Rios Board Regulation R-8343; employment is contingent upon meeting the requirements of Los Rios Board Regulation R-8343. This position may require operating a District or personal vehicle in order to complete assigned work within the scope of the position duties. Any offer of employment will be contingent upon the successful completion of a medical evaluation. Within six months of hire obtain a forklift operator certificate. After six months of hire, must maintain a valid forklift operator certificate.

KNOWLEDGE OF

Methods and materials used in the installation, maintenance and repair of automatic sprinkler systems including controllers, time clocks and valves; sizes and specifications of pipes and fittings for proper volume and pressure; irrigation requirements for various types of soil; various aspects of pipe fitting as it applies to sprinkler installations; safety related use of equipment, primers and glues; basic mechanical, electrical, plumbing and hydraulic principles.

ABILITY TO (ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS)

Perform the basic functions of the position; read, understand, and apply conversion charts for water pressure and water flow; read and understand technical manuals, wiring diagrams, blueprints and charts; apply math concepts and compute accumulated loss/friction; analyze and diagnose system malfunctions; use hand and power tools and other equipment associated with sprinkler systems; establish and maintain effective working relationships with others; plan and direct the work of other employees; observe and maintain appropriate safety and/or work habits.

Physical And Environmental Factors: Perform physical labor while maneuvering seven or more hours each shift; work on knees in wet/damp conditions, follow proper bending and lifting techniques; work in confined or cramped spaces, lift, move, reach, pull, bend repeatedly in performance of duties; climb and move heavy objects; may work on slippery surfaces.