

GARDENER

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled work in the planting, care and maintenance of gardens and other park facilities.

Work involves responsibility for the routine care of an assigned park garden or group of gardens and other park facilities requiring a general knowledge of planting, cultivation and other operations required in the care of a variety of plants. Work also involves the performance of general laboring tasks in parks maintenance. Work is performed under general supervision with instructions given initially and carried out by the application of routine gardening skills. Work is subject to visual inspection by a supervisor and acceptance as evidenced by general public commentary. Supervision may be exercised over subordinate workers.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Prunes, hoes, waters and sprays flower beds in assigned park areas; prepares flower beds for planting; performs general gardening duties to maintain flower beds and hedges after planting.

Mounds roses, takes cuttings, gathers in plants and prepares soil as dictated by the season; digs flower beds in anticipation of planting season.

Informs supervisor of any problems regarding watering, insects, parasites, diseases, weed encroachments or soil conditions which adversely affect flower beds.

Maintains and provides support in the following areas: inspection of contracted plant material, harvesting of existing plant material, layout of designs, preparation of flower beds, supervision of planting crews, and general maintenance of flower beds and flower bed designs.

Cleans and checks fountains, pools and malls at various locations during the summer months as assigned; repairs equipment as needed; performs other general labor such as mowing and other tasks related to parks maintenance.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Knowledge of types and varieties of local shrubs, annuals and other flowers commonly planted in public areas.

Knowledge of the watering, fertilizing and care requirements of flowers, plants and shrubs.

Knowledge of practical gardening methods and tools.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to perform manual laboring tasks in sometimes adverse weather conditions.

Ability to lead a small crew and train subordinate staff as needed.

Ability to deal tactfully and courteously with coworkers and the general public.

Skill in working with plants, shrubbery and flowers, and gardening tools and equipment.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent with course work in floriculture/horticulture and experience in the care and maintenance of flowers, plants and shrubbery.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent and some experience in plant production and in the care and maintenance of flowers, plants and shrubbery; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT

Possession of a valid driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

Possession of a Nebraska Certified Pesticide Application license.

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