

MAJOR FUNCTION

This is technical horticultural work performing landscape and grounds maintenance duties, as they are typically practiced in North Florida, including pruning, planting, chemical application, irrigation operation and repair, fertilization and operation of various types of equipment used in landscape and grounds maintenance. The incumbent works under the general supervision of a higher-level supervisor. Work assignments frequently require the incumbent to work independently and without direct supervision for extended periods of time while overseeing and/or directing the work of others. Work is reviewed through inspection and observation of results obtained.

ESSENTIAL AND OTHER IMPORTANT JOB DUTIES**Essential Duties**

Participates in installing, planting, pruning, irrigating and fertilizing plants, trees and turf. Participates in installing, operating and maintaining irrigation systems, water features, ornamental lighting, signage and hardscape features. Operates with proficiency, a variety of equipment used in landscaping and grounds maintenance, such as, but not limited to, tillers, mowers, line-trimmers, edgers, blowers, chain saws, spray equipment, light trucks, utility vehicles and various hand tools common to the industry. Applies pesticides and herbicides, where applicable. Calibrates spreaders and sprayers. Performs field diagnostics of automatic irrigation systems and troubleshoots problems. Participates in Integrated Pest Management program by scouting for insects, diseases and weeds in the field, identifying common pests and/or weeds and discussing potential problems and solution options with other Horticultural Technicians or the supervisor. Pulls weeds by hand. Picks up trash and debris. Participates in making minor repairs to equipment and performing preventative maintenance. May also provide assistance to special events staff, vendors and sub-contractors, as directed. Participates in storm related cleanup as required. Keeps records and documentation of activities, as assigned. Coordinates work activities per direction, and when assigned, serves as lead worker on the crew(s), directing the activities of other horticultural technicians, temporary and contract workers. Performs related work as directed.

Other Important Duties

Participates in specialized training provided to increase knowledge, skills and abilities in horticultural operations. Performs related work as directed. May be required to provide basic training and orientation to fellow horticultural technicians, temporary or contract workers.

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS**Desirable Qualifications**

Knowledge of advanced horticultural operations, grounds care, lawn maintenance or landscaping. Thorough knowledge of ornamental pest and weed control and common chemicals used and their mixing, application and storage. Knowledge of the principles and practices of Integrated Pest management (IPM). Knowledge of automatic irrigation system design, installation, troubleshooting, repair and operation. Ability to follow instructions and carry out assigned tasks. Ability to identify common plants, trees and turf of Northern Florida. Ability to identify common insect pests, diseases and weeds of Northern Florida. Ability to operate with proficiency, the common equipment and tools utilized in the industry. Ability to read and interpret simple landscape and irrigation drawings and to install materials per details. Ability to oversee and direct the work of others.

Minimum Training and Experience

Possession of a high school diploma or an equivalent recognized certificate and three years of experience that includes landscaping, grounds care, lawn maintenance, nursery operations, irrigation or a related field.

Special Necessary Requirements

Must possess the appropriate State Commercial Drivers License (CDL) at the time of appointment or must have passed the appropriate written CDL test and obtained a CDL permit at the time of appointment and obtain the appropriate CDL license within 90 calendar days from the date of hire, as a condition of continued employment.

Must obtain the Florida Certified Horticultural Professional certification within 90 days of employment and maintain the certification as a condition of continued employment in this job class.

Must obtain the City of Tallahassee Turf and Landscape Fertilizer Certification within six months of employment and maintain the certification as a condition of continued employment in the position.

Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs: Must possess a valid State of Florida Public Restricted Use Pesticide Applicators License at the time of appointment and must maintain this license as a condition of continued employment in the position.

Public Works: Must obtain the Florida Department of Transportation Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic certification within six months of appointment and maintain certification as a condition of continued employment in the position. Must obtain the Florida Department of Agriculture Right-of-Way Pest Control license within six months of employment and maintain the license as a condition of continue employment in the position.

Established: 04-29-06
11-02-09*
06-16-12
06-12-13