

LA MESA-SPRING VALLEY SCHOOLS

CLASS TITLE: GARDENER/EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of the Supervisor, Gardening and Groundskeeping, performs a variety of grounds maintenance and gardening duties in the beautification of assigned grounds and landscaped areas; maintains grounds for events and recreational activities as assigned; provides support to other grounds personnel in the performance of work assignments; operates and maintains a variety of power equipment and vehicles in the maintenance of designated grounds.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

Applies pest control methods to eradicate weeds and other pests according to established procedures and under the guidance of IPM coordinator.

Communicates with various personnel and outside agencies to exchange information, coordinate activities and resolve issues or concerns; coordinates with various personnel to adjust irrigation schedules as assigned.

Excavates District grounds and property as assigned by the position and performs various duties in preparing District grounds for renovations as assigned; installs sand and bark around playground structures according to federal safety guidelines.

Install and maintain storm drain systems.

Maintains grounds maintenance equipment in safe operating condition; performs minor maintenance on equipment such as changing blades, greasing and changing oil.

Maintains routine records related to assigned activities; prepares work orders as assigned.

Mows, edges, trims, and waters lawns, fields and other turf grounds; prepares and fertilizes soil; waters various grounds areas by hand or by operating the irrigation systems.

Operates a variety of equipment used in grounds work; utilizes standard gardening hand tools; drives a vehicle to conduct work; assists with submitting orders for supplies as assigned by the position.

Operates a variety of power-driven equipment such as tractors, mowers, edgers, sweeper, skidsteer and attachments, blowers, chain saws, hedge trimmers and other equipment used in grounds work; utilizes standard gardening hand tools; drives a vehicle to conduct work as assigned by the position; assists with submitting orders for supplies as assigned by the position.

Performs duties in the maintenance and repair of irrigation systems as assigned by the position; assists with installing new irrigation system components as assigned.

Performs duties of other grounds maintenance staff and provides support to other grounds personnel in the performance of work assignments; assists with maintaining campus grounds in accordance with established standards.

Performs general grounds cleanup, including picking up paper, trash and debris on grounds areas, parking lots, playgrounds, athletic fields and other assigned areas; unclogs storm drains and performs related duties as assigned.

Performs regular preventive maintenance work and minor repairs on grounds equipment; checks fluids, changes oil and assures proper lubrication of grounds equipment; sharpens and replaces blades; arranges for major repairs as necessary.

Performs various duties in maintaining grounds for events and recreational activities as assigned; performs routine work in the preparation, lining, marking and dragging of athletic fields and related areas as assigned.

Plants, cultivates, prunes, sprays, fertilizes and irrigates flowers, trees, grass and shrubs; hoes and pull weeds and rake leaves; edges walkways; sweeps litter from walks and driveways.

Repairs small sections and areas of concrete, pavers, block wall to maintain safe and attractive grounds.

Responds to emergency situations related to assigned functions accordingly.

Transports a variety of items in District vehicles and trailers including debris, equipment and supplies.

Use best management practices for erosion control installation.

OTHER DUTIES:

Attends and participates in meetings, in-service trainings, workshops and conferences.

Performs related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Basic record-keeping techniques.
Cultivating, fertilizing, watering and spraying of flowers, trees and shrubs.
Grounds maintenance procedures including mowing, edging, raking and weeding.
Health and safety regulations.
Methods, equipment and materials used in landscaping and groundskeeping work.
Operation, preventive maintenance and minor repair of a variety of grounds equipment including gang, riding and push mowers and other power-driven grounds equipment.
Oral and written communication skills.

ABILITY TO:

Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.
Maintain routine records related to work performed.
Mow, edge, water, weed, fertilize, rake and cultivate lawns, flower beds, athletic fields and other landscaped areas.
Observe health and safety regulations.
Operate and maintain a variety of power equipment and vehicles in the maintenance of designated grounds.
Perform a variety of grounds maintenance and landscaping duties in the beautification of assigned grounds and landscaped areas.
Perform heavy physical labor.
Perform regular preventive maintenance work and minor repairs on grounds equipment.
Understand and follow oral and written instructions.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to: graduation from high school or equivalent GED and one year of grounds maintenance experience including the operation and maintenance of grounds maintenance equipment.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Successful passage of the District's job-related proficiency test.
Valid California Class C Driver's License and evidence of insurability.
Valid Qualified Applicator's Certificate

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Driving a vehicle to conduct work.
Exposure to fumes, dust, odors, oil, grease and gases.
Outdoor work environment.
Seasonal heat and cold or adverse weather conditions.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching.
Climbing in and out of grounds equipment.
Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate grounds maintenance equipment.
Heavy physical labor.
Lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling heavy objects as assigned by position.
Seeing to operate ground equipment.
Sitting and riding equipment for extended periods of time.
Walking or standing for extended periods of time.

HAZARDS:

Exposure to chemicals used in pest control and weed abatement.
Traffic hazards.
Working around and with machinery having moving parts.

FLSA Status

Non Exempt

Approval Date

3/01/08; 8/24/09 (Grounds Equip. Op.), 9/28/17