

MAJOR FUNCTION

This is technical level 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. Incumbent works under the general supervision of a higher level supervisor. Work assignments may frequently require the incumbent to work independently and without direct supervision for extended periods of time. Work is inspected by observation and results achieved.

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. Proficiently operates a variety of equipment used in landscaping and grounds maintenance, such as, but not limited to, tillers, mowers, line-trimmers, edgers, blowers, spray equipment, light trucks, utility vehicles and various hand tools common to the industry. May also, following general directions from the Foreman of Horticultural Operations or Senior Horticultural Technician, apply pesticides and herbicides, where applicable. May perform field diagnostics of automatic irrigation systems and troubleshoot 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 Senior Horticultural Technician or the Foreman of Horticultural Operations. Pulls weeds by hand. Picks up trash and debris. May also provide assistance to special events staff, vendors and sub-contractors as directed. May be required to keep records and documentation of activities as appropriate. Participates in making minor repairs to equipment and performing preventative maintenance. Performs all other related duties as assigned.

Other Important Duties

Participates in specialized training provided to increase knowledge, skills and abilities in horticultural operations. May be required to provide training to lower level employees, temporary or contract workers. Performs all other related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**Knowledge, Abilities and Skills**

Knowledge of general horticultural operations, grounds care, lawn maintenance or landscaping. Basic knowledge of ornamental pest and weed control, common chemicals used and their mixing, application and storage. Ability to identify common insect pests, diseases and weeds of Northern Florida. Ability to identify common plants, trees and turf of Northern Florida. Ability to operate with proficiency the common equipment and tools utilized in the industry. Ability to operate sprayers, mowers, tillers, weed-eaters and other related grounds keeping equipment.

Minimum Training and Experience

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

Necessary Special Requirements

Must obtain a Florida Certified Horticultural Professional (FCHP) certification within 90 days of employment and maintain valid certification as a condition of continued employment.

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.

Must possess the appropriate State Commercial Driver 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 licensure within 90 calendar days from date of employment as a condition for continued employment.

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.

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