

TITLE: GARDENER I - II

DEFINITION: Under general supervision, independently or as a member or a travel crew, performs skilled gardening work and supervises helpers in gardening and grounds maintenance work.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

Grade Level I - A Gardener I is expected to have a good knowledge of a variety of plants and shrub material commonly found in City parks. A Gardener I is normally assigned primary gardening maintenance responsibility for outlying park or plant material areas which account for no less than fifty percent (50%) of his regularly scheduled work week or is assigned responsible gardening duties on a full-time permanent basis in a major City Park or plant material area. A Gardener I may be assigned, in limited cases, to specialized gardening duties such as fertilization, and/or weed and insect control spraying, and/or shrubbery pruning that account for not less than 75% of the employee's regularly scheduled work week where the skill and knowledge required for the operation is at a level commensurate with the skill and knowledge a Gardener I should be expected to possess. Gardener I's are not normally assigned to travel crews or travel sub -crews where a Park Crew Foreman is normally working with or in the immediate vicinity of the crew or sub-crew.

Grade Level II - A Gardener II is normally expected to have a more complete knowledge than a Gardener I of the various plant and shrub materials found at selected locations in the City park system. A Gardener II may be used to act as a leadman over a small group of grounds maintenance personnel including at least one Gardener I and contractors. Gardener II's are not used as leadmen in an area where a Park Maintenance Supervisor is available for supervisory responsibility. A Gardener II may also be assigned responsibility for unusual functional areas or activities such as cemetery worker and sprinkler repairman.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

- Prepares soil and performs cultivation work;
- Grades, plants and reseeds lawns;
- Mows, edges and waters lawns and adjusts and makes minor repairs to sprinkler systems;
- Programs irrigation system using central software;
- Prunes shrubs and trees;

GARDENER I-II (continued)

- Transplants flowers and shrubs;
- Leads the work of helpers performing lower level grounds maintenance work;
- Operates trucks and light power equipment;
- Services and makes minor repairs to tools and equipment;
- Observes and enforces safety regulations;
- Orders materials and supplies;
- Keeps time and other records;
- May be required to apply chemicals for weed and pest control;
- Performs other related duties as required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Two years full-time paid experience in gardening and grounds maintenance work requiring a good knowledge of the care and maintenance of flowers, shrubs, plants, trees and lawns.

-OR-

Education equivalent to two years of training at an accredited college or university with major course work in Horticulture or related fields.

-OR-

Any combination of paid full-time equivalent experience and education totaling two years.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Knowledge of pesticide use and safety, irrigation systems, and drought-tolerant plant materials.
- Ability to:
 - Assess, document and troubleshoot issues within the complete irrigation system;
 - Communicate effectively verbally and in writing;
 - Work independently;
 - Drive City vehicles;
 - Utilize electronic work order system;
 - Utilize standard horticultural equipment;
 - Lift and carry up to 50 pounds; and
 - Work in or near streets with heavy traffic.

Willingness to work overtime, weekend and/or holiday hours.

A valid motor vehicle operator's license or permit.

HISTORY:

Approval/Adoption Dates: 12/14/73

Revisions adopted by Civil Service Commission: 11/17/2021