



IRRIGATION/GROUNDS WORKER

FC: MA348
PG: MW-III

PC: 301
BU: 01
November 1994

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, performs a variety of skilled maintenance, repair, modification and testing of irrigation systems; performs skilled gardening and landscape maintenance work in the upkeep of landscaped areas around District facilities; performs related work as assigned.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This is the journey level classification performing skilled irrigation work involving both manual and computer operated systems. In addition, the positions perform gardening and landscape maintenance work. Incumbents work independently according to accepted standards of the trade, supervisory direction, and District procedures and practices and are expected to select appropriate tools, materials and approach to the work.

EXAMPLE OF DUTIES

Troubleshoots, adjusts, repairs, installs, and modifies irrigation systems, components and automatic controllers; tests and troubleshoots automatic controllers and remote control valve electrical systems using voltage resistance measuring equipment; reads water meters and makes repairs to vacuum breakers or backflow preventative devices; performs calculations to assure the correct ratio of pipe nozzle size to water pressure output per irrigation demand; monitors and operates a computer modem driven irrigation system; installs and maintains manual sprinkler systems; sets and operates sprinklers or waters plantings by hand as required; prepares soil for planting and plants trees, shrubs and seedlings, grades area for erosion control as required; cultivates, mulches, fertilizes and maintains existing plantings; trims and prunes shrubs, groundcovers and annual plantings; clears leaves, trash and debris; sweeps and rakes walkways and parking lots; cleans culverts, drainage areas and other material lands on District property; maintains and repairs fences and gates and other minor structures found in District landscaped areas.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Methods, equipment, tools, and materials used in the installation, maintenance and repair of manual and computer operated irrigation equipment and systems; basic principles of hydraulics as related to irrigation systems; basic operating principles of electronics as applied to irrigation system controls and automatic controllers; tools, equipment, methods, and materials for the maintenance of grounds and varied landscaped and public use areas; equipment and practices related to the safe use of pesticides and herbicides; use and care of hand and power tools common to the trade; troubleshooting and diagnostic techniques; safety practices and procedures pertaining to the work; basic shop arithmetic.

Skill in:

Diagnosing operational problems in irrigation equipment and systems; performing preventative maintenance and modifications to irrigation components and equipment; performing skilled landscaping, gardening and grounds work; reading and interpreting plans, specifications, blueprints, diagrams, and manuals; operating hand and power tools and testing equipment safely; working effectively both independently and with a crew; understanding and following oral and written directions; maintaining accurate records of work performed and materials used; establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of the meeting.

Other Requirements:

Must possess and maintain a valid California Class B driver's license and have a satisfactory driving record. Must be willing to work out of doors in all weather conditions. Must be physically capable of performing heavy physical labor, including lifting materials and equipment weighing up to 90 pounds. May be required to obtain an appropriate California pesticide applicator license.

A typical way of gaining the knowledge and skills above is:

Equivalent to completion of high school and two years of experience in the installation and maintenance of irrigation systems.