GROUND WORKER/APPLICATOR

FC: MA346         PC: 301
PG: MWIII         BU: 01 (SEIU)
FLSA: Non-Exempt  Created: December 6, 2005
                  Revised: May 22, 2006

Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are not intended to reflect at duties performed within the job.

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, performs a wide variety of skilled herbicide applications and gardening and grounds maintenance work in the upkeep of landscaped areas around District facilities; and performs related duties as assigned.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This is a journey level classification performing skilled herbicide applications and gardening and grounds maintenance. 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.

REPORTS TO

This position reports to Grounds Foreworker.

EXAMPLE OF DUTIES – Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Mixes various herbicides and sprays for vegetation control, following specific instructions.

2. Operates spray equipment for the purpose of controlling noxious weeds, filling and mixing of all chemicals used as herbicides, and fill out daily paperwork as required.

3. Triple rinsing and disposal of herbicide containers in the manner as directed by the label.

4. Mechanical abatement that includes the use of weed eaters, trimmers, mowers, tractors and other weed removal tools.

5. Prepares soil for planting and plant trees, shrubs and seedlings.

6. Cultivates, mulches, fertilizes and maintains existing plantings.

7. Trims trees and prunes shrubs, ground covers and annual planting.
8. Installs and maintains sprinkler system.

9. Sets and operates sprinklers or portable water by hand as required.

10. Clears leaves, trash and debris, sweeps and rakes walkways and parking lots and leaves planted and surrounding public areas in a clean and orderly condition.

11. Cleans culverts, drainage areas and other natural lands on District properties.

12. Maintains, repairs chain link fence and other minor chain link structures found in District areas.

13. Operates a truck or other vehicle to reach the work site.

14. Uses, cleans and performs minor maintenance on a variety of hand and power tools common to the trade, including tillers, tractors, sprayers, chain saws, pruners, chippers, mowers and blowers.

15. Reads and interprets blueprints and designs.

16. Discusses work to be performed with foreworkers or others.

17. Answers inquiries from citizens regarding work performed.

18. Selects tools, equipment and materials required for the job.

19. Loads and unloads materials and equipment.

20. Maintains records of work performed and materials used.

21. May assist other maintenance crews in emergency situations or take immediate action to mitigate hazards such as fallen tree limbs or broken glass in grounds areas.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

**Knowledge of:**
- Equipment and practices related to the safe uses of various herbicides.
- Tools, equipment, methods and materials for the maintenance of grounds and varied landscaped and public use areas.
- Tools, equipment, practices and techniques related to tree and shrub trimming and pruning.
- Irrigation system installation and maintenance methods and techniques.
- Use and care of hand and power tools common to the trade.
- Basic shop arithmetic.

**Skill in:**
- Operating various herbicide spraying equipment.
- Calculating quantities and distances.
- Performing skilled landscaping and grounds maintenance work.
- Reading and interpreting plans and specifications.
Understanding and following oral and written directions. 
Maintaining accurate records and preparing simple reports of work performed. 
Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of the work.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

**Education:**
Possession of a high school diploma, GED or recognized equivalent.

**Experience:**
Three (3) years of (full-time equivalent) verifiable gardening and grounds maintenance experience.

**Certificate:**
Will be required to obtain a California “Qualified Applicators Certificate” within ninety (90) days of acquiring position.

**Other Requirements:**
Must possess a valid California driver’s license and have a satisfactory driving record. 
Must be willing to work out of doors in all weather conditions. 
Must be physically able to perform heavy physical labor, including lifting materials and equipment weighing up to fifty (50) pounds.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

**Environmental Conditions:**
Field environment; exposure to confined spaces, heights, uneven surfaces and all weather conditions.

**Physical Conditions:**
Requires maintaining physical condition necessary for lifting and carrying; walking, climbing, stooping, bending, crawling, twisting or standing for prolonged periods of time.

**BART EEO-1 Job Group:** 5000 - Skilled Workers 
**Census Code:** 4250 - Grounds Maintenance Workers 
**Safety Sensitive:** N