I. Position Title

Gardener II

II. Position Description

Under supervision, to operate power grounds equipment as a regular and major work assignment; perform independent and responsible grounds, gardening, and landscaping work; perform general and varied grounds maintenance work and do related work as may be required.

Positions in this class receive assignments from the Groundsman III, and work alone or in a roving crew on all district lawns, grounds, and landscaped areas. Assists on more skilled gardening jobs; operates a variety of equipment in maintaining grounds, fences, railing, sprinkler systems, blacktop and concrete surfaces.

III. Example of Duties/Responsibilities

A. Cuts, edges, trims, and prunes landscaped areas
B. Prepares and fertilizes soil and plants lawns, trees, shrubs, hedges and flowers
C. Sprays landscaped areas with pesticides, herbicides and fungicides for insect and weed control
D. Hoes weeds and rakes lawns
E. Irrigates and waters various ground areas by hand or by operating the sprinkler system
F. Assists in preparing athletic fields for athletic events, limes fields and prepares tracks, jumping pits, etc.
G. Operates and uses various power and hand grounds equipment and tools such as tractors, trucks, trenchers, cement mixers, weed whips, mowers, fork lifts, jack hammers, welders, power pressure sprayers, chain saws, etc.
H. Repairs and maintains small motors and hand equipment as well as some of the above noted equipment and sprinkler installations
I. Maintains and repairs sprinkler systems, automatic electric clocks, installs and repairs water valves, sprinkler heads, irrigation lines
J. Hauls sand, dirt, sawdust and straw and distributes where needed
K. Performs general unskilled duties involved in repair of fences, mixing, pouring and forming cement.
L. Installs and repairs railings
M. Installs or sods new lawns, removes trees and shrubs
N. Operates large power grounds equipment such as gang mowers, edgers, blowers, and power trimmers
O. Repairs, maintains gas, oil and water in assigned vehicles

(E) - Essential

IV. Minimum Qualifications
Knowledge of:
• Basic methods, hand tools and large power equipment used in grounds maintenance and gardening work
• Safe working practices
• Operation and routine maintenance of power grounds equipment
• Use and care of pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and weed abatement materials

Ability to:
• Perform routine grounds maintenance work, operate and maintain a variety of power grounds equipment and tools safely and skillfully
• Operate a truck and grounds equipment, observing legal and defensive operating procedures
• Understand and carry out simple oral and written directions
• Work cooperatively with those contacted in the course of work

Education and Experience
• Graduation from High School or equivalent
• Individuals possessing the abilities listed above are considered to possess the necessary experience

License
• Possession of a valid California Driver’s License
• Possess or prepare to possess as soon after employment as reasonably possible, a Certified Commercial Applicator certificate issued by State of California

Working Conditions
Environment
• Outside work environment
• Subject to adverse weather conditions and noise from equipment operation
• Traveling from site to site to conduct work
• Regular exposure to fumes, dust, and dirt

Physical Abilities
• Strength: Heavy work - lifting, carrying, pushing or pulling up to 100 pounds with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 50 pounds
• Ability to see to read labels and operate equipment
• Gripping/grasping tools, supplies and equipment
• Climbing, bending, twisting at the waist
• Stooping, kneeling
• Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a variety of specialized equipment and tools.
• Reaching overhead and horizontally
• Standing and walking for extended periods of time
• Walking over rough or uneven surfaces
• Required to wear safety and preventive wear and devices while spraying with hazardous materials

Hazards
• Working with machinery having moving parts
• Exposure to fertilizer fumes, pollen and dust