

SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

GARDENER

Spec No. 8025

BASIC FUNCTION

To perform skilled work in the propagation, cultivation and general care of a variety of flowers, plants, shrubs, trees and landscaped areas.

STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES

1. Mow, edges, aerates, waters, and fertilizes lawns; seeds lawn areas; and cuts and transplants sod.
2. Plants, prunes, trains, stakes, waters and fertilizes a variety of flowers, plants, shrubs and trees.
3. Selects and grows seeds and bulbs; transplants flowers and bulbs; waters and fertilizes plants as necessary.
4. Applies herbicides and pesticides to control vegetation, disease and insects; determines the nature of disease, weed, or insect infestation; purchases appropriate chemicals; mixes chemicals to proper strength.
5. Sweeps, rakes and picks up trash from grounds as necessary; cultivates soil; trims and weeds around flower beds, trees and walkways; cleans out plugged up outdoor drains, as necessary.
6. Operates and maintains gardening equipment such as mowers, edger and pruning equipment; replaces belts, adjusts blades, changes spark plugs, repairs grass catchers, replaces engines and wheels, as required.
7. Operates and repairs sprinkler systems; troubleshoots malfunctions and replaces sprinkler heads, pipes and valves as necessary.
8. Selects, orders, and picks up gardening materials, tools and equipment.
9. Enters data into computer for maintenance service requests including task status and inventory control information.

STATEMENT OF OTHER JOB DUTIES

10. Serves as lead worker over temporary help, work release inmates and/or other maintenance personnel as required.
11. Performs related duties as required.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Three (3) years of experience in the propagation, cultivation and care of a variety of flowers, plants, shrubs, trees and landscaped areas; OR, any equivalent combination of training and/or experience that provides the required knowledge and abilities. An Associate of Arts degree in horticulture may be substituted for two (2) years of the required experience. Must pass job related tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A valid State of Washington Driver's License may be required for employment.

A valid State of Washington Public Operator's Pesticide License is required.

Possession of or ability to obtain a valid First Aid Card within ninety (90) days of employment is required.

Candidates for employment may be required to pass a pre-employment physical examination prior to being hired.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- horticultural principles and practices;
- practices and methods of growing plants;
- herbicide, fertilizer and insecticide mixtures and applications;
- uses of common trees, shrubs, flowers and plants;
- the hazards associated with the work;
- safety rules and regulation;
- basic first aid methods and procedures;

Ability to:

- identify, plant and care for a variety of trees, shrubs, flowers and plants;
- use a wide variety of hand and power tools skillfully and safely;
- perform routine maintenance and minor repairs on gardening equipment and accessories;
- perform strenuous physical work;
- read, interpret and apply relevant codes;
- read, interpret and work from a variety of blueprints, drawings, sketches and work orders;
- understand and follow oral and written instruction;
- read, understand and follow safety rules and regulations;
- establish and maintain effective work relationships with superiors and co-workers;
- deal courteously and tactfully with the general public.

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PHYSICAL REPORT

The work involves a variety of manual labor tasks requiring some strenuous physical effort such as lifting objects weighing in excess of fifty (50) pounds.

SUPERVISION

The employee reports to a Facility Maintenance Supervisor or other supervisor as assigned. The work varies from routine gardening work such as mowing lawns to selecting and growing plants. The work is performed under limited supervision and the employee generally carries out assigned tasks independently. The work may be spot checked to ensure timely completion and compliance with work orders, plans and specifications. The employee serves as a lead worker as necessary.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The work is performed outdoors in all types of weather. Employees are exposed to a variety of hazards such as dust, fumes, sprays, chemicals and inclement weather.

Employees are required to work evenings, weekends and holidays as necessary.

Snohomish County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer.
Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are provided upon request.

[EEO policy and ADA notice](#)

Class Established: June 1977 Spec No. 920914

Revised: Novemebr1983, September 1995 and September 2000; May 2006

EEO Category: 8 – Service and Maintenance Workers

Pay Grade: 236 – Classified Pay Plan

Workers Comp: 1501 Hazardous