

NATURALIST

NATURE OF WORK

This is responsible technical and instructional work participating in the development and implementation of educational and interpretive programs for the Outdoor Education/Nature Preserve Section.

Work involves providing technical assistance and instruction for all age groups on the subjects of trees, shrubs, flowers, animals and nature study. General instructions are received from the Nature Center Coordinator but the employee must use considerable independence in the application of technical knowledge and skills in the preparation of educational material. Supervision is received from an administrative supervisor with work being reviewed in the form of reports, evaluations, conferences, and effectiveness of services provided. Supervision is exercised over subordinate staff.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Prepares and presents programs and lectures to groups and school classes on all subjects relating to earth and life sciences.

Assists the Nature Center Coordinator in providing interpretive text for informational publications such as pamphlets, brochures, exhibits, graphics, etc.

Interprets all elements of life sciences to park and Pioneers Park Nature Center visitors.

Participates in the recruitment, training and scheduling of volunteers.

Collects and prepares demonstration materials for classes, school tours and exhibits.

Assists with the planning and design of native plantings and supervises the maintenance of such areas.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of earth and life sciences.

Some knowledge of the interests of children and adults in plant and animal life and the ability to enhance this interest through instruction and demonstration.

Ability to plan and conduct programs that appeal to all age groups.

Ability to collect, identify and prepare specimens for exhibits.

Ability to deal tactfully and courteously with coworkers and the general public.

Ability to express oneself clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major coursework in nature, botany, horticulture, zoology, or related field; plus two years of experience in nature work and public speaking; or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

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