

PARK HORTICULTURIST

NATURE OF WORK

This is advanced skilled and technical work related to the selection, installation and management of ornamental plantings on park and other public properties.

Work involves responsibilities in three primary areas: a) design, coordination and implementation of the installation of display gardens and ornamental plantings, b) coordination of tree planting within parks, and c) review of development applications for compliance with applicable municipal code sections and design standards. Work is performed with considerable independence, although reviewed and approved by an administrative superior. Work may involve training and guidance of staff involved in planting and maintaining ornamental plant material.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Designs display gardens including roses, annual and perennial ornamental plants and woody plant materials with the advice of gardening staff and other parks personnel; takes into consideration available resources for maintenance while placing emphasis on highly visible community areas.

Provides technical advice to and consults with gardening staff throughout the growing season regarding management of display gardens.

Contracts for growing of bedding plants; coordinates installation and removal of display gardens.

Coordinates planning and contracting for planting of trees within parks in cooperation with park planners and district park supervisors.

Reviews development applications and calculates surety amounts for street tree and on-site landscaping required by land subdivision and zoning code sections; reviews and recommends approval of requests for release and street and landscape sureties.

Coordinates volunteer work related to planting or maintenance of display gardens with community residents and organizations.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of herbaceous and woody ornamental plant material including characteristics and culture.

Considerable working knowledge of a variety of trees, shrubs, vines and flowering plants suited to a wide range of growing conditions.

Considerable knowledge of horticultural principles and practices related to growing ornamental plants including planting and establishment, soil management and amendment, watering, pruning and pest management.

Knowledge of garden and landscape design principles.

Ability to design floral display gardens.

Ability to provide guidance to department staff and community volunteers involved in planting and caring for display gardens and ornamental plantings.

Ability to develop a working familiarity with development review procedures and applicable municipal code sections and design standards.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, volunteers and the general public.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a two-year horticulture program or completion of equivalent college-level coursework in botany, horticulture or related field and four years of experience working with a variety of ornamental and flowering plants; or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT

Possession of a valid driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

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