

GROUNDS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN I

DEFINITION OF WORK

Employees in this class perform skilled horticulture work in the planting, cultivation, maintenance, and care of grounds and landscaping surrounding County owned buildings. Work involves mowing, trimming, and maintenance of shrubs, trees, plants, and grass. Employees determine the care and treatment of areas to ensure good condition. Employees operate a variety of heavy equipment in performance of duties. Work is performed in accordance with instructions from the Grounds Maintenance Landscape Supervisor; reports to a Grounds Maintenance Technician II (Crew Leader).

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Work includes sowing, transplanting, fertilizing, and applying water to the plants, turf or plant collection; installing new plant material following plans and/or approved horticultural/grounds practices and procedures; and maintaining flower beds including, pruning, weeding, mulching, fertilizing, and spraying of plant material. Participates in the application of herbicides, insecticides, and other chemicals that may be applied to turf or plant collection. Seeds, mows; and gives general care to lawn or grass areas; Plants flowers, and bulbs and transplants items as needed; Participates in the removal of dirt, rubbish, snow, leaves and refuse, and may participate in the removal or cutting down of trees. Employees operate small to heavy equipment to include commercial mowers, backhoes, weed eaters, leaf blowers, sprayers, dump trucks, and tractors. Employees perform related work as required.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education and Experience:

Graduation from a two-year technical or community college with a degree in agriculture and natural resources, greenhouse and grounds maintenance, horticulture technology, landscape gardening or closely related field; or graduation from high school and two years of related experience in horticultural work including the operation of various landscape equipment; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

A working knowledge of grounds keeping and horticultural practices, cultivation, pruning, spraying, and trimming requirements of shrubs and trees, and plant maintenance procedures used in landscape installation and ground maintenance; working knowledge of all equipment and specialized tools used in landscape work; and knowledge of plant collection, which impacts the cultivation and maintenance of the plants. An ability to observe plants and identify plants and plant problems; ability to assess condition and health of plants; ability to operate heavy equipment; ability to follow oral and written instructions; and an ability to develop good working relationships with co-workers. Ability to understand, comply with and adhere to the safety rules and regulations.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Certification by the North Carolina Pesticide Board as a Licensed Pesticide Public Operator is necessary. Certification must be obtained within six months of hire. Background check with local law enforcement agency required. Some positions within classification may require a valid North

Carolina driver's license. Condition of Employment: Each applicant who is tendered an offer for employment for any position with Cumberland County shall be tested for the use of drugs specified in the County policy. Refusal to submit to testing or a confirmed positive test shall be basis for withdrawal of the conditional employment offer.

ADA REQUIREMENTS

Employees are subject to hazards associated with working in outside environments, in extreme hot and cold weather, and exposure to dust, loud noises, odors, vibrations, machinery, and hazardous toxic fumes, oils, gases, chemicals, or flammable liquids. Work subjects employees to compliance with OSHA safety standards, policies, and regulations.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Must be able to perform tasks that involve regular, and at times, sustained performance of moderately physically demanding work.

Must be able to perform work typically involving some combination of climbing and balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, and crawling.

Must be able to lift, carry, push and/or pull moderately heavy objects and materials 20-100 pounds.

Must be able to perceive and discriminate colors, sounds, and odors.