

GROUNDS/IRRIGATION TECHNICIAN

JOB SUMMARY	Under supervision of the Grounds Foreman, perform grounds maintenance, turf installation, and pesticide/herbicide applications throughout the District. Perform skilled repairs and maintenance of all installed irrigation systems and controls, including computer operated systems.
DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS	Incumbents in this class perform the full range of grounds keeping, landscaping, and equipment operation tasks required in the classes of Groundskeeper I and Groundskeeper II.
TYPICAL DUTIES	Perform the full range of general grounds maintenance, gardening, and landscaping activities typical of the classes of Groundskeeper I and Groundskeeper II. Install new irrigation layouts and/or modify existing systems according to blueprints, sketches or verbal instructions. Estimate time and material costs. Troubleshoot and maintain automatic systems. Install low voltage wiring controls and fixtures such as hydraulic and electro-hydraulic and micro-electric controllers. Participate in the training of grounds crew in the installation, maintenance, and repair of manual and automatic sprinkler systems and electric controllers. May participate in soil testing, soil amending, tilling, and rolling for preparation and follow up of new turf (sod or seed) areas. Complete all spraying of insecticides/pesticides/herbicides on lawns, fields, slopes, and in and around buildings. Identify plant diseases, insect pests, and methods of controls. Operate power and manual equipment related to irrigation system and other grounds maintenance work. Keep work records and complete jobs from work orders. Perform other related duties as assigned.
JOB REQUIREMENTS	Any combination of education, training, and/or experience which demonstrates ability to perform the required duties. A typical qualifying background would include specialized training in the installation and maintenance of sprinkler systems and at least two years of prior related work experience.
Knowledge of:	Grounds maintenance and technical skills in landscaping principles. Installation, maintenance, and repair of large scale sprinkler systems utilizing electronic controls and sensing mechanisms. Basic mathematics and principles of hydraulics. Occupational hazards and safety precautions. Common plant and tree diseases. Insect pests and method(s) of control. Basic recognition of shrubs, trees, and plant material and blueprint reading. Proper spraying of insecticides/herbicides.

Ability to: Properly and safely operate a variety of tools, materials, and equipment commonly used in groundskeeping, landscaping, and in the installation, maintenance and repair of sprinkler systems and control mechanisms. Work from sketches, plans, and blueprints. Prepare time and material estimates. Conform with all safety code requirements. Use motorized power equipment, power sprayers, and drive support vehicles. Perform heavy physical labor. Understand and follow written and oral instructions. Maintain accurate records and prepare reports. Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work. Plan and organize work. Meet schedules and deadlines.

LICENSE Must possess a valid California driver's license and the ability to qualify, and maintain qualification, for District vehicle insurance coverage.

PHYSICAL ABILITY The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is required to possess dexterity of hands and fingers to handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; reach with hands and arms; and speak and hear to exchange information. The employee frequently is required to walk or stand for extended periods of time; climb or balance; bend, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; and distinguish odors. The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 50 pounds, frequently lift and/or move up to 100 pounds, and occasionally lift and/or move more than 100 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus. The selected candidate must be able to perform duties of a rigorous work schedule, and pass a physical examination and drug screening.

WORKING CONDITIONS The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works near moving mechanical parts, in outside weather conditions and is regularly exposed to risk of electrical shock. The employee frequently works in high, precarious places and is frequently exposed to toxic or caustic chemicals. The employee is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions and vibration. The employee is required to drive a vehicle to conduct work.