

IRRIGATION SPECIALIST

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, installs, maintains, and repairs electric and hydraulic irrigation systems and controls for schools and District facilities; assists other grounds personnel as necessary in grounds maintenance work; and performs related work as required.

LICENSE REQUIRED

Possession of a valid and appropriate California driver's license.

CERTIFICATION

Obtain within six (6) months of employment a Backflow Prevention Device certificate.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

Incumbents in this class are expected to have gained sufficient knowledge and skill in the assigned area to perform semi-skilled and skilled tasks independently.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Lays out, installs, maintains, and repairs sprinkler and irrigation systems including sprinkler heads, adapters, nipples, electric, hydraulic, and manual sprinkler control valves, vacuum breakers, and backflow valves. *E*

Tests sprinkler and irrigation systems for water pressure and leaks; makes adjustments to sprinklers including locating and repairing faulty valves, heads, and control valves. *E*

Repairs water lines and replaces related equipment as necessary. *E*

Performs related plumbing duties as required. *E*

Wraps and insulates pipes to prolong in-ground life. *E*

Lowers and raises lawn sprinkler heads and locates remote valves, piping, and control valves. *E*

Utilizes blueprints, schematic drawings, sketches, and verbal instructions to determine work procedures. *E*

Operates trenching, backfilling, and other equipment related to sprinkler repair and maintenance functions. *E*

Adjusts and repairs time clocks, low voltage electric solenoids, and electric valves. *E*

Installs and repairs galvanized, case iron, transite, PVC, and other types of pipes found in sprinkling systems. *E*

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (cont.)

Determines appropriate parts, supplies, and equipment required; prepares expenditure reports; makes time, material, and cost estimates. *E*

Coordinates the activities of grounds workers assisting in the installation, repair, and maintenance of sprinkling and irrigation systems. *E*

Assists other grounds-maintenance personnel in the performance of general grounds maintenance work. *E*

Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

1. Methods involved in the installation, repair, and maintenance of a variety of sprinkler systems, including controllers, valves, pumps, piping, and irrigation heads;
2. Standard practices, methods, materials, and equipment used in the various aspects of sprinkler system installation and repair;
3. Pumps, pressure switches, time clock controllers, and related equipment;
4. Volume and pressure characteristics of sprinkler systems;
5. Operation of automatic timer control clocks, hydraulic and electric valves, and various sprinkler heads;
6. Sizes and specifications of pipes and fittings for required volumes and pressures;
7. Methods used in planting, cultivating, pruning, and caring for plants, flowers, shrubs, trees, and lawns;
8. Record keeping procedures;
9. Basic math;
10. Appropriate safety precautions and procedures; and
11. Backflow prevention systems.

Ability to:

1. Install, maintain, and repair all types of grounds irrigation systems;
2. Repair mechanical and electronic equipment used in sprinkler systems, including various types of automatic control timing devices;
3. Operate equipment used in sprinkler system installation and repair;
4. Read and interpret blueprints, drawings, and sketches of landscaped design plan;
5. Perform grounds-maintenance activities, including spraying, pruning, sweeping, trimming, and edging;
6. Maintain accurate records;
7. Estimate costs to install or modify a sprinkler system;
8. Make repairs in plastic tubing, connections, valves, and sprinkler units;
9. Perform plumbing duties as related to water mains and drainage;
10. Operate and maintain grounds equipment and District vehicles;

Ability to: (cont.)

11. Understand and carry out oral and written instructions;
12. Establish and maintain effective relationships with persons contacted in the course of work;
13. Test backflow devices as required by the County Health Department (certification required); and
14. Maintain work pace appropriate to given work load.

EDUCATION

Individuals possessing the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed are considered to possess the necessary education.

EXPERIENCE

Previous experience in the installation, modification, maintenance or repair of irrigation and sprinkling systems and associated equipment.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Environment:

Outdoor work environment; subject to driving a vehicle to conduct work.

Physical Abilities:

Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a variety of hand and power tools; walking over rough or uneven surfaces; bending at the waist; kneeling or crouching, digging, heavy physical labor; lifting and carrying objects weighing up to 75 pounds.

Revised: 12/89