

As a Gardener and Irrigation I, you will perform a wide range of gardening work including planting, pruning, and fertilizing plants, flowers, shrubbery, and turf grass.

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

- Gardener and Irrigation I
- Works under the direct supervision of the Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, but may also receive assignments and direction from the Gardener Leader.
- Serves in the Structures and Grounds Division of the Engineering and Maintenance Department at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA).

Plants and maintains flowers, plants, shrubbery, and turf grass. Installs new irrigation systems, and makes repairs to existing irrigation systems. Programs electrical irrigation controllers, and troubleshoots common electrical system problems with controller and control valves. Performs related functions.

### **GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Designs and installs new irrigation systems; makes repairs to existing irrigation systems.
- Evaluates the individual needs or characteristics of plants, turf, and site conditions to promote good plant and turf growth.
- Weighs, measures, and mixes herbicides and pesticides in accordance with directions and safety procedures. Performs calculations to properly apply to landscaping.
- Prepares soil for planting by tilling, spreading, and fertilizing as directed.
- Plants or transplants a variety of plantings. Prunes, trims, and removes trees using specialized equipment.
- Operates industrial self-propelled power mower and a hydrostatic riding mower, farm tractor, aerator, sweeping brush, seeder/planter/fertilizer, and snow blower/broom.
- Uses a variety of power and hand tools including string trimmers, chain saws, and yard rakes.
- Monitors operator-level maintenance of vehicles and equipment; reports malfunctions or damage of equipment to supervisor.
- Performs miscellaneous duties, such as moving and arranging furniture, and assisting with roadway and sidewalk repairs.
- Drives pick-up truck or construction vehicle, airside and landside, to various worksites.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- Three years of progressively responsible experience in basic horticulture and irrigation systems.

### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

1. Knowledge of the gardening trade and ability to perform journey-level work to include laying out, installing, and maintaining irrigation systems; planting, transplanting, and pruning plants; and preparing and fertilizing soil.

2. Skill in using gardening equipment (such as forklift and front-end loader) and hand and power tools (such as chain saw, trimmers, and rakes).
3. Knowledge of and ability to comply with Federal and state regulations regarding licensing, storing, mixing, calibrating, applying, and disposing of commercial pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides.
4. Skill in applying herbicides, pesticides, and fungicides.
  - Ability to work safely and knowledge of the safety rules, regulations, and procedures needed to do so.
  - Ability to work in tandem with other equipment, moving vehicles, and pedestrians.
  - Ability to speak and write effectively.
  - Ability to perform basic analyses of data and information.
  - Skill in using a computer, computerized work order and time and attendance system.

### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Licensed as a Class B Commercial Driver (CDL).

### **EDUCATION**

- A high school diploma, a Certificate of General Education Development (GED), or an equivalent combination of education, experience, and training.

### **CERTIFICATIONS AND LICENSES REQUIRED**

- A state driver's license in good standing.
- Licensed as a Class B Commercial Driver within 90 days of hire, promotion, or placement in the job.

### **NECESSARY SPECIAL FACTORS**

- Work is typically reviewed in progress upon completion for quantity, quality, timeliness, teamwork, customer service, and other factors.
- Operates vehicle landside and airside (requires AOA permit).
- May be subject to adverse weather conditions, including exposure to very cold or very hot and humid outside temperatures.
- May be subject to potential hazards common to the airport environment and landscaping tasks. Wears personal protective gear, as necessary.
- Work requires moderate to heavy physical exertion (lifting objects up to 50 pounds). May bend, stoop, crouch, and work in a cramped position or work on ladders.
- May be subject to hold over and recall on a 24-hour basis for essential services and emergencies, such as snow removal.