



NEWPORT NEWS, VA
CITY OF OPPORTUNITY

JOB DESCRIPTION **SPRAY TECHNICIAN**

(PARKS DIVISION)

PARKS, RECREATION AND TOURISM Human Resources Department
700 Town Center Drive, Suite 200
Newport News, VA 23606
Phone: (757) 926-1800
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GENERAL STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

Under general supervision, this position is responsible for all aspects of pesticide and herbicide application at all Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism maintenance sites. Reports to the Superintendent of Parks Maintenance & Landscaping.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Serves as lead worker responsible for spraying herbicides and insecticides and performing landscape maintenance of City public grounds and facilities. Identifies weeds and diagnoses plant diseases and problems; selects and properly mixes, prepares and applies appropriate herbicide/insecticide to eliminate weed and ornamental plant problems. Operates general landscape equipment including front end loader, tractor with basic landscape attachments, winch truck, rototiller, aerator, mower, electric pruner, sprayer, and edger.

Maintains complete and accurate records related to assigned work including work performed, pesticide usage, equipment repair and maintenance, and maintains an inventory of necessary pesticides and fertilizers. Supervises all Registered Technicians spraying pesticides under their Certified Applicator License.

Ensures the safety of City equipment, private property, and others by following proper safety procedures; performs routine checks and preventive maintenance on equipment; identifies and reports equipment malfunctions; cleans equipment as needed.

Serves as a member of the EMS Program Development and Implementation Teams with a focus on pesticide usage.

Performs other duties as assigned.

PERFORMANCE STANDARD

Employees at all levels are expected to effectively work together to meet the needs of the community and the organization through work behaviors demonstrating the City's Values. Employees are also expected to lead by example and demonstrate the highest level of ethics.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE

- Landscaping Maintenance - Thorough knowledge of the techniques, tools, methods, practices, procedures and materials related to general landscaping and grounds keeping to include pesticide and pesticide application using both high and low pressure systems.

- Equipment Operation - Thorough knowledge of the proper procedures for operating, inspecting and maintaining assigned equipment.
- Safety - Knowledge of occupational hazards, safety precautions, and safety regulations related to equipment operation and other work related precautions.

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Computer Skills - Utilizes a personal computer with word processing, spreadsheet, and related software to effectively complete a variety of administrative tasks with reasonable speed and accuracy.
- Interpersonal Relationships/Customer Service - Develops and maintains cooperative and professional relationships with employees, representatives from other departments and organizations, and the public.
- Judgement/Decision Making -Uses logic and reasoning to understand, analyze, and evaluate situations and exercise good judgment to make appropriate decisions.
- Time Management - Ability to plan and organize daily work routine. Establishes priorities for the completion of work in accordance with sound time-management methodology.

REQUIRED ABILITIES

- Communication - Ability to communicate ideas effectively. Ability to listen and understand directions, information and ideas presented verbally and in writing. Ability to handle a variety of customer service issues with tact and diplomacy in a confidential manner.
- Manual Labor - Ability to perform heavy manual labor for long periods of time, and in all types of weather conditions.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Requires 3-5 years of groundskeeping or landscaping experience including pesticide application, or any combination of education and experience.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

An acceptable general background check to include a sex offender registry check, and an acceptable driving record.

This position requires pre-employment medical evaluation and substance abuse testing and is subject to random alcohol and controlled substance testing.

Requires certification as a Virginia Commercial Pesticide Applicator in categories 3-A, 3-B, 3-C, and 6.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Tasks require the regular and, at times, sustained performance of moderately physically demanding work.
- Some combination of climbing and balancing to include climbing ladders, stooping, kneeling, crouching, and crawling.

- May involve the lifting, carrying, pushing, and/or pulling of moderately heavy objects and materials (20-50 pounds).

SENSORY REQUIREMENTS

- Some tasks require the ability to perceive and discriminate sounds, depth, texture, and visual cues or signals.
- Some tasks require the ability to communicate orally.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES

Performance of essential functions may require exposure to adverse environmental conditions, such as dust, pollen, humidity, temperature and weather extremes, toxic agents, electric currents, animal/wildlife attacks, water hazards, or rude/irate customers.