



PERSONNEL COMMISSION

Class Code: 5030
Salary Range: 20 (C1)

CHEMICAL APPLICATION TECHNICIAN

JOB SUMMARY

Under immediate supervision, perform skilled work in the application of chemicals, herbicides, insecticides and various pesticides to trees, shrubs, grass and a variety of plants and soils in landscaped areas to control the spread of pests, plant diseases and plant growth; perform related duties as assigned.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

The classification specification does not describe all duties performed by all incumbents within the class. This summary provides examples of typical tasks performed in this classification.

- Inspect vegetation to identify parasites and disease; determine the proper type and amount of pesticide to apply; mix a variety of chemicals with water or oils for application to vegetation. **E**
- Control the growth of weeds and spread of insects in a variety of landscaped areas; spray appropriate chemicals, herbicides, insecticides and herbicides inside and around the perimeter of District facilities according to established guidelines and safety regulations. **E**
- Estimate spraying conditions to avoid damage to ornamental or economic vegetation through spray drift. **E**
- Prepare, line, and burn athletic fields and related areas utilizing appropriate chemicals and groundskeeping tools. **E**
- Operate spray equipment; regulate pressure and spray; estimate time and materials to complete projects; select and apply nozzles and attach spray booms; operate various gardening, hand and power tools; drive a District truck to conduct work. **E**
- Maintain, clean, adjust and make minor repairs to spray equipment; maintain and store protective clothing and various wands, booms and accessories utilized in spraying. **E**
- Utilize a variety of specialized chemicals and methods in the eradication and prevention of gophers, moles, bees, wasps, ants, spiders and other rodents and insects; set rodent traps. **E**
- Communicate with other departments, staff and administrators to exchange information regarding pesticide use and to identify problem areas. **E**
- Mow, edge, trim, and water lawns, fields and other turf grounds as directed; prepare and fertilize soil; plant, cultivate, prune and fertilize flowers, trees, grass and shrubs as assigned; hoe and pull weeds and rake leaves as necessary. **E**

- Maintain records related to work orders and chemical application activities. *E*

Note: At the end of some of the duty statements there is an italicized E. This is strictly for use in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Chemical Application Technician classification is assigned to a specific area of the District. This position requires possession of a valid Qualified Pesticide Applicator license.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Knowledge of:

Varieties and species of plant, vegetation, pests and diseases indigenous to the area.
Selective use of chemicals to control pests and diseases.
Methods and materials used in controlling pests, insects and weeds.
Methods of application of chemical sprays to control pests and disease.
Herbicides and other chemicals used in grounds maintenance.
Grounds maintenance procedures including mowing, edging, raking and weeding.
Methods, equipment and materials used in gardening and groundskeeping work.
Federal, State and local laws, rules and regulations relating to pesticide enforcement.
Technical aspects of field of specialty.
Record-keeping techniques.
Operation and maintenance of a variety of chemical applications equipment.
Health and safety regulations as established by the State Education Code and District.
Basic arithmetic for estimating and mixing proper amounts of chemicals and herbicides.

Ability to:

Identify various pest and disease related problem areas.
Control the growth of weeds and spread of rodents and insects in a variety of landscaped areas.
Estimate and determine the proper type and amount of pesticide to apply.
Estimate spraying conditions to avoid damage to vegetation and other possible hazards.
Mix a variety of chemicals with water or oils for application to vegetation.
Mow, edge, water, weed, fertilize, rake and cultivate landscaped areas.
Maintain records related to work performed.
Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
Operate and maintain a variety of chemical applications equipment.
Work independently with little direction.
Plan and organize work.
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.
Observe health and safety regulations as established by the State Education Code and District.

Training:

Graduation from high school.

Experience:

Two years grounds maintenance experience including one year experience performing pest control duties utilizing high pressure spray equipment.

Any other combination of training and/or experience that could likely provide the desired skills, knowledge or abilities may be considered.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Valid California Class C driver's license.

Applicants for this classification will be required to obtain and submit, at his/her own expense, his/her current motor vehicle driving record at the time of appointment. The record must meet and be maintained at the District's safe driving standard. Failure to meet this requirement will result in the disqualification and/or rejection of the applicant regardless of any other standing.

Some incumbents in this class may be required to wear protective clothing, gear and equipment as required by law.

Applicants for this classification are required to submit a Qualified Pesticide Applicator's license or certificate issued by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation at the time of application.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT

Outdoor work environment. Seasonal heat and cold or adverse weather conditions. Exposure to chemicals, fumes, dust, odors, oil/grease and gases. Driving a District truck to conduct work. Working around and with machinery having moving parts. Exposure to chemicals used in pest control and weed abatement.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate spray equipment. Hearing and speaking to exchange information. Walking or standing for extended periods of time. Seeing to inspect vegetation and read a variety of materials. Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching to set traps and apply chemicals. Lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling heavy objects (39 pounds or more) as assigned by position. Reaching overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally. Heavy physical labor.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Persons with certain disabilities may be capable of performing the essential duties of this class with or without reasonable accommodation, depending on the nature of the disability.

APPOINTMENT

In accordance with Education Code Section 45301, an employee appointed to this class must serve a probationary period of six (6) months during which time an employee must demonstrate at least an overall satisfactory performance. Failure to do so shall result in the employee's termination.

PCA 10/24/02

Revised: 1/8/04

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