

THE MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Job Description

Title: Seasonal Gardener

Part Time: Annual or Seasonal

Division: Horticulture

Effective Date: 3/7/2022

Prepared by: B. Crawford

Approved by: R. Vitale

Position Charter:

This position works under the supervision of the designated Superintendent or their designee. Employees in this position perform a wide variety of horticultural maintenance tasks throughout the horticultural sites and parklands operated by the Morris County Park Commission. Individuals are required to have a general understanding of horticulture and the skills necessary to perform horticulture maintenance tasks.

Essential Functions:

- Physically works in all aspects of arboretum maintenance and development including soil preparation, planting, mulching, watering, weeding, fertilizing, pruning, propagating, mowing, raking, sweeping & blowing, tree & brush cutting, and chipping.
- Operates in a proficient manner push mowers, riding mowers, weed-whackers, backpack blowers, push blowers, garden ATVs, pickup trucks, chainsaws and other power equipment following MCPC safety protocols in compliance with regulatory standards.
- Utilizes shovels, trowels, fan rakes, grading rakes, spades, digging forks, pick axes, brooms, hand shears, hand saws, loppers, pole pruners & pole saws, wheel barrows, fertilizer spreaders, garden carts, ladders, and other hand tools properly to complete assigned tasks.
- Successfully performs the above functions and uses said equipment independently without constant supervision.

Other Functions:

- May interact with the public on an informal basis by answering garden and arboretum questions, providing directions, etc.
- May work at other Park Commission sites, as directed.
- Adheres to industry safety regulations.
- Assists the Horticulture Division in achieving the goals identified in the Horticulture Strategic Facilities Master Plan.
- Assists in other arboretum maintenance activities, as required.

Qualifications:

- A demonstrated understanding of the horticultural practices and procedures required for soil preparation, planting, mulching, watering, weeding, fertilizing, pruning, propagating, mowing, raking, sweeping & blowing, tree & brush cutting, and chipping.
- The ability to use shovels, trowels, fan rakes, grading rakes, spades, digging forks, pick axes, brooms, hand shears, hand saws, loppers, pole pruners & pole saws, wheel barrows, fertilizer spreaders, garden carts, ladders, and other hand tools effectively.
- The ability to identify common landscape plants.
- The ability to operate push mowers, riding mowers, weed-whackers, backpack blowers, push blowers, garden ATVs, pickup trucks, chainsaws and other power tools effectively.
- The physical strength, dexterity, and coordination sufficient to perform the above functions.
- The ability to follow written and verbal instructions.
- The ability to lift and carry weights of up to 50 pounds.
- Possession of a valid New Jersey driver's license.
- Maintains an attendance record adequate to complete the essential functions of the position.
- The ability to perform the essential functions of this position with or without reasonable accommodation.

This is a six-month seasonal position.

Nothing in this job description restricts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time.