Job Posting

Parks Horticulturist – Denver Parks & Recreation

Date Posted: October 12, 2020
Location: Denver Parks & Recreation, Denver, Colorado

Please Contact
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To Submit Your Application
Please visit Denvergov.org/jobs and click on “Search Jobs (External Applicants)

Job Description
Denver Parks and Recreation has an opening for a Parks Horticulturist in our Northeast Park district. This is an exciting and unique opportunity for anyone with a passion for creating beautiful landscapes and natural areas for the citizens of Denver.

The Park Horticulturist will perform restoration, cultivation, care and management within a variety of natural and traditional park landscapes and gardens. This position will support Denver's Northeast Park district, which includes a high percentage of natural areas and native landscapes such as perennial gardens, ornamental grasses, shrubs and open spaces. This position will provide much focus to these areas but will also focus on many of the traditional park landscapes.

This position will work Monday – Friday, 6:00am – 2:30pm. This position will report to Northeast Park District’s Smith Road Facility at 10450 East Smith Road, Denver, CO. To see a map of the Northeast Park Operations District please see: https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/747/documents/parks/DPR-maintenance-districts.pdf

While the full pay range of this Job Classification is $19.37 - $28.28, our target hiring pay rate for this position is between $19.37 - $23.83, depending on education experience and qualifications.

The Park Horticulturist will be responsible for:
- Performing cultivation, restoration, management, and general maintenance of flower gardens, lawns, shrubs, trees, ground covers, natural areas and wildlife habitats
- Working outdoors alongside other team members and using leadership skills to guide less seasoned workers to implement best practices in horticulture:
- Preparing working sketches of flower beds or water conserving landscapes
- Preparing, fertilizing, amending or conditioning soils for different types of plants or plant communities
- Participating in the planning and development of planting programs, natural open space restoration projects, and planting management schedules
- Making recommendations for the number and types of plants to be grown in assigned locations
- Performing weed management
• Determining appropriate growing conditions such as soil, sunlight, moisture levels, temperature and humidity most suitable to the variety of plants under cultivation or restoration
• Preparing reports and maintaining records of plant maintenance, weed management and/or restoration activities.
• Ensuring safe handling and proper utilization of hand-powered tools, motorized equipment and spray equipment
• Safely mixing, preparing and appropriately applying chemicals
• Developing and modifies work plans to align with innovative approaches and best practices
• Performing related park maintenance tasks such as trash collection, bathroom maintenance and cleaning, vandalism repair/graffiti removal, and snow removal operations as needed
• Performing other duties as assigned

Ideal Candidate Summary
In addition to the minimum requirements, our ideal candidate will have a passion for beautifying the City's gardens, parks and open spaces, while remaining committed to serving the citizens of Denver. Our ideal candidate will possess the following:
• Previous experience with native and open space management
• Knowledge of a wide range of flower and shrub varieties
• Experience performing lead work or guiding others
• An eye for creativity and innovation
• Strong collaboration and communication skills
• The ability to take direction and work independently

We realize that your time is valuable, so please do not apply unless you meet the following minimum qualifications:
• Education requirement: Graduation from high school or the possession of a GED, HiSET or TASC Certificate
• Experience Requirement: Three (3) years of experience in the cultivation and care of a wide variety of ornamental/native plants -OR-horticultural/ecological restoration

• Education/Experience Equivalency: Additional appropriate education may be substituted for the minimum experience requirement except for one year of experience in the care of a wide variety of ornamental/native plants or horticultural/ecological restoration. For example, successful completion of a Master Gardener Program may substitute up to four semester hours of course work. Relevant Continuing Education Units (CEU) in horticulture or Naturalist Training Programs may substitute for three semester hours at the rate of forty-five contact classroom hours of seminars, workshops, etc. Additional appropriate experience in horticulture, botany, natural resources, range management, or horticultural/ecological restoration may be substituted for the education requirement
• License/Certifications: Requires a valid Driver’s License at the time of application. Requires Certification in Pesticide Application by the State of Colorado by completion of probationary period
• Licenses and certifications must be kept current as a condition of employment