CLASS TITLE: GROUNDS EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of the Director- Grounds & Transportation, operate a variety of grounds power equipment to trim, clean, and maintain planted and unplanted areas of the campus; prune plants and bushes, remove obstructions and apply herbicides and pesticides according to established procedures; perform general tasks of gardener to assure plant health and the ongoing clean appearance of College areas.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:
Operate a variety of grounds maintenance equipment, such as riding and push mowers and tractors, loaders, sweepers, trucks, utility vehicles and various hand and power tools such as edgers, line trimmers, blowers, chain saws, hedge shears, rototillers and aerators; mow assigned lawn areas and athletic fields utilizing appropriate equipment.

Operate grounds equipment to fill, level, roll and prepare grounds for planting.

Transport sand, dirt, fertilizer, fuel, pesticides, tools, equipment and other materials to and from various sites as directed; spread fertilizer, sand, soil, mulch and other materials utilizing spray and other appropriate equipment.

Perform a variety of grounds maintenance and landscaping duties in the beautification of assigned grounds and landscaped areas as assigned; plant, cultivate, prune, spray, fertilize and irrigate flowers, trees, grass and shrubs; hoe and pull weeds and rake leaves; edge walkways; sweep, pick up and dispose of cuttings, branches, leaves and other debris following assigned tasks.

Apply pest control methods to prevent and eradicate weeds, insects and other pests according to established procedures as assigned; apply herbicides to kill unwanted plants.

Edge, trim, and water lawns, fields and other turf grounds; prepare and fertilize soil.

Perform minor preventive maintenance and minor repairs on grounds equipment; check fluids and assure proper lubrication of grounds equipment; defer regular maintenance and repairs to the mechanics.

Perform a variety of duties related to the preparation of athletic fields, practice areas and surrounding complexes including but not limited to leveling, lining, marking and dragging of athletic fields and related areas as directed.

Perform a variety of custodial duties incidental to groundskeeping, including removal of litter and emptying of trash can, cleaning parking lots, walks and driveways.

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OTHER DUTIES:
Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:
Operation, preventive maintenance and minor repair of a variety of grounds equipment including riding and push mowers and other power-driven grounds equipment.
Grounds maintenance procedures including mowing, edging, raking and weeding.
Methods, equipment and materials used in landscaping and grounds keeping work.
Cultivating, fertilizing, watering and spraying of flowers, trees, shrubs and turf.
Oral and written communication skills.
Health and safety regulations.

ABILITY TO:
Operate and maintain a variety of power equipment and vehicles in the maintenance of designated grounds.
Perform minor preventive maintenance work and minor repairs on grounds equipment.
Perform a variety of grounds maintenance and landscaping duties in the beautification of assigned grounds and landscaped areas.
Mow, edge, water, weed, fertilize, rake and cultivate lawns, landscaped beds, athletic fields and other landscaped areas.
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.
Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
Observe health and safety regulations.
Perform heavy physical labor.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:
Any combination equivalent to: one year skilled level in the operation of landscape maintenance tools, power equipment, vehicles and various mechanized equipment.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:
Valid California Driver’s License
Physical Examination

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:
Outdoor work environment.
Seasonal heat and cold or adverse weather conditions.
Exposure to fumes, dust, odors, oil/grease, gases and chemicals.
Driving a vehicle to conduct work.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:
Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate grounds maintenance equipment.

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Sitting and riding equipment for extended periods of time.
Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching.
Walking or standing for extended periods of time.
Lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling heavy objects weighing 50 lbs or more as assigned by position.
Heavy physical labor.
Seeing to operate ground equipment.
Climbing in and out of grounds equipment.

HAZARDS:
Exposure to chemicals used in pest control and weed abatement.
Working around and with machinery having moving parts.