

City of Fort Worth, Texas Job Description

Classification Title	Senior Gardener		
Job Code:	ST5320	Job Family:	Service Trades
Pay Grade	508	Date Reviewed:	07/15/15
FLSA Status	Nonexempt	Date Revised:	

GENERAL SUMMARY

Leads, performs design, installation and maintenance of the Botanic Gardens and several assigned City parks. Provides exhibit information and venue preparation.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The intent of this job description is to provide a representative summary of the major duties and responsibilities performed by incumbents of this job. Incumbents may be requested to perform job-related tasks other than those specifically presented in this description.

1. Oversees the landscape maintenance and daily exhibition of the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens.
2. Assesses, plans and executes bud-scraping and maintenance work in the Japanese Garden, including directing the activities of other gardeners, maintenance workers volunteers and day-laborers.
3. Serves as lead person performing a comprehensive array of garden tasks, ranging from those specific to Japanese gardens to generic grounds-keeping tasks.
4. Serves as curator for the Japanese Garden, providing interpretive information about various exhibits and advisory for architectural additions and upgrades.
5. Prepares various Japanese Garden venues for rentals and special events.
6. Maintains Garden's various Karesansui (Dry Garden) exhibits, including a formal Zen style garden.
7. Identifies and purchases tools and materials for maintenance and land scraping of the Japanese Garden.
8. Maintains plant identity list for City Japanese Garden.
9. Performs other related duties as required.
10. Adheres to assigned work schedule as outlined in the Department and City attendance policies and procedures; ensures all behaviors comply with the City's Personnel Rules and Regulations.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES

- **Knowledge of:**
 - Japanese garden history, design, construction, and maintenance.
 - Landscape design and construction techniques.

- Botany and plant taxonomy.
- Various shrubs, trees, ground covers, and turf, and their appropriate use in a traditional Japanese landscape.
- Methods of planting and pruning, including those techniques specific to Japanese gardening.
- Effective methods of integrated pest management.
- Irrigation system maintenance and repair, including controller repair.
- Pond and recirculation system maintenance and repair, including Koi care.
- Basic carpentry, plumbing, wiring, paving, and stonemasonry.
- Proper techniques and uses of a variety of hand and power tools.
- Writing, mapping, and drafting techniques.
- **Skill in:**
 - Verbal and written communication.
 - Planning and prioritizing.
 - Observation and decision-making.
 - Organization and time management.
- **Ability to:**
 - Integrate a variety of plants, traditional Japanese garden elements, landscaping and horticultural techniques, with appropriate gardening practices, and apply them in a cohesive and visually effective manner to the garden.
 - Direct the activities of staff workers, volunteers, and community service workers.
 - Design and construct Japanese-style landscapes, decks, arbors, walls, etc.
 - Compose written instructions, essays, maps, photographs, articles, memorandums, and proposals for staff communication and educational outreach.
 - Maintain records; locate, obtain, and store work-related materials and tools; and make appropriate purchasing decisions.
 - Plan seasonal maintenance activities, such as mowing, pruning, weeding, fertilizing, planting, irrigation, etc.
 - Maintain and repair the Japanese Garden's extensive irrigation system, including its controller units.
 - Perform maintenance and repairs on pond-and-waterfall recirculating systems.
 - Identify horticultural problems and treat them effectively utilizing IPM methods.
 - Identify and eliminate safety hazards.
 - Safely and properly operate a variety of tools, equipment, and vehicles.
 - Train new workers.

MINIMUM JOB REQUIREMENTS

Associate's Degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in Horticulture, Floriculture, or related field and two years of responsible experience in a professional gardening or nursery environment one year of which must be in the design, construction and maintenance of Japanese gardens.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Valid Texas Class 'C' Driver's License.

Possession of, or ability to obtain, a Texas Non-Commercial Pesticide Applicator's License

WORKING CONDITIONS

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Depending on assignment, positions in this class typically require touching, talking, hearing, seeing, grasping, standing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, walking, repetitive motions, climbing, balancing, pushing, pulling and lifting; depending on assignment. Incumbents may be exposed to moving mechanical parts, odors, dusts, poor ventilation, chemicals, oils, extreme temperatures, inadequate lighting and intense noises.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Medium work – Depending on assignment, positions in this class typically exert up to 50 pounds of force occasionally, up to 20 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly having to move objects.