



**ARBORIST
JOB DESCRIPTION**

JOB TITLE: Arborist	CLASSIFICATION: Skilled Craft	IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR: Parks Superintendent, Park Supervisor
PAY GRADE: 118	DEPT: 7200 Parks & Recreation	STATUS: <u>FT</u> <u>PT</u> EXEMPT <u>NON-EXEMPT</u> BARG UNIT <u>NON-BARG UNIT</u>

JOB SUMMARY: Primary responsibilities involve installation, care and maintenance of ground covers, turf grass, and other plants, trees and vegetation throughout the Village. Oversight and application through spraying and/or mechanical application of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizer, for weed and nuisance species control. Work is performed with considerable independence and reviewed for results obtained.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Some supervision performed; acts as crew chief in coordinating tasks of General Maintenance Workers I & II on specific projects as needed. May have supervision of inmates or work with outside contractors and Irrigation Specialists.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Performs arboricultural tasks, including site preparation, planting, pruning, fertilizing, staking, insect and disease control, stump grinding, chipping, watering, and removing as necessary Conducts routine inspections of trees to determine decay and other potentially harmful issues.
- Coordinates the activities involved in maintaining trees throughout the City; performs various tree maintenance tasks to maintain and improve the health and aesthetics of trees in the City; removes unwanted nuisance, exotic, and hazardous; identifies sidewalks and other structural defects caused by root growth and determines resolutions.
- May serve as crew leader
- Performs weed and nuisance species control through spraying and/or mechanical application of herbicides.
- Installs and maintains organic mulch and hardscape items, such as landscape lighting, signage, tree protection devices, etc.
- Assists in the implementation of the Urban Forestry Program. Assists in field data collection, inventory, hazard assessments, research, and related urban forestry activities.
- Works with, and assists in, turf management, hydroseeding and sodding, aquatic management, nuisance species control, storm pond and wetland mitigation management and maintenance.
- Provides reports including work accomplishments, schedules, administrative tasks, equipment maintenance, research, inspections data, and analysis as required.

- Assist Superintendent with inspection of ROW's to establish the scope of work for lifting the canopy, developing specifications to be followed by County staff and/or contracted vendors.
- Acts as a liaison to the contract manager to inspect work completed by vendors and ensure adherence to County specifications and ANSI standards.
- Assist Area Superintendents with Tree Removal Assessments as needed.
- Assists in maintaining the playgrounds, parks, right-of-ways, street medians and utility lift stations.
- Performs, assigns, and oversees all spray maintenance of parks and grounds.
- Applies fertilizer, herbicide and other agents as appropriate for the proper maintenance of turf and landscaping throughout the Village.
- Recognized pest and weed damage, identify pests and weeds to determine appropriate remedy.
- Reads Technical label and application instructions. Calculates proper application rates and dilution. Schedules applications.
- Calibrates sprayer/spreader equipment. Operates self-contained spray unit and or tractor to apply pesticides/herbicides/fertilizers through attached spray booms/spreaders. Maintains records of spray applications.
- Organizes chemical storage area and maintains inventory.
- Performs routines maintenance on sprayers and spreaders to include changing hoses and cleaning screens.
- Ensures safety of work crews, citizens and environment as it relates to chemical application. Reports any unsafe issues and makes suggestions to supervisor.
- Performs the removal of debris and brush from canals and ditches and canal bank maintenance.
- Ability and skill to safely operate and maintain motorized equipment such as chain saws, chippers, stump grinders, high-reach buckets, trucks, etc.
- Ability and skill to safely operate hand tools such as hand pruners, handsaws, axes, loppers, spraying equipment, climbing gear, etc.
- Assists in determining most efficient manner of accomplishing assigned work.
- Studies and takes exams to maintain restricted use pesticide licenses.
- Assists in providing and maintaining irrigation water to landscape projects and other public properties.
- Receives and responds to citizen inquiries and concerns regarding trees in the City.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience:

- High school diploma or equivalent, and
- Any related combination of training and experience.
- Vocational or technical school training as an Arborist or closely related area with a minimum of one to two years of experience in grounds and landscape maintenance.
- Minimum of two (2) years of experience in arboriculture, forestry, professional landscape maintenance, or comparable field.

- Must possess Certified Arborist Certification from the International Society of Arboriculture as an Arborist or the ability to get one within 24 months of hire.
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services "Core" and "Right-of-Way" Chemical Applicator's License, or ability to obtain within six (6) months of hire.
- Preferred two (2) other applicator licenses, such as Natural Areas, Mosquito Control, Turf and Ornamental, or Aquatics.

Knowledge/Abilities/Skills:

- General knowledge of best management practices in the fields of Horticulture and Urban Forestry, specifically as relate to the care and maintenance of trees.
- General knowledge of tree and shrub species indigenous to Palm Beach County and the State of Florida, introduced landscape species, and their general traits and characteristics.
- General knowledge of nuisance and invasive introduced species, their identification and means of control or eradication.
- General knowledge of Horticulture and Agriculture contract management.
- Ability to comprehend and follow instructions, oral and written.
- Ability to communicate effectively and courteously (orally and in writing) with co-workers, supervisors, contractors and the general public.
- Ability to prepare reports and forms in an accurate, clear, and concise fashion.

OTHER DUTIES:

- Works emergency situations (including weather or other extreme conditions) as required. Performs other related work (including weather or other extreme emergency duties) as required.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid Florida State driver's license, or ability to obtain one by date of hire; No more than two moving violations within a 12 month period; No more than six violation points on your license within a 24 month period.
- CDL, or ability to obtain one.
- Some experience in the operation and routine maintenance of moderately heavy equipment;

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.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to manipulate, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls, and reach with hands, fingers and arms. The employee is frequently required to stand and walk. The employee

is occasionally required to sit, climb, balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl, and talk or hear.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 50 pounds, occasionally lift and/or move more. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distant vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus. In addition, the employee must be able to rotate neck frequently, extend arms overhead frequently, and turn completely around from fixed stance.

TOOLS & EQUIPMENT USED:

Spray equipment, small motorized injection/pump systems, specialized gas/electric powered tool and equipment relation to job functions, trucks, tractors, graders, gradalls, backhoes, and other associated equipment used in the parks structures, facilities and projects. Operates a variety of specialized equipment to maintains trees including a bucket truck, aerial lift, chipper, stump grinder, front-end loader, hedge trimmer, and related machinery; utilizes communications equipment including a two-way radio.

ENVIRONMENTAL 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.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in outside weather conditions, and is frequently exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, toxic or caustic chemicals, fumes, vibration, dust, pollen, airborne particles, rain, traffic hazards, bright/dim light and temperature extremes. The employee may occasionally work in high precarious places. The noise level in the work environment can be loud.

SELECTION GUIDELINES:

Formal application, evaluation of education, training and experience; oral interview and reference check; job related tests and background, DMV and criminal testing may be required. The Village is a Drug Free Workplace and an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee, and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

HISTORY:

Created: 10-01-17

Revised: 09-25-19