

Fayette County, Iowa

Position Description

CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN

Position: Conservation Technician

Reports to: Executive Director

Department: Conservation

Date: September 2017

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

POSITION SUMMARY

Under general direction of the Executive Director, performs maintenance, construction, and grounds keeping functions to ensure the safe use and enjoyment of conservation areas and facilities by the public. Directs and supervises work of seasonal employees. Assists in collecting camping fees. Assists in developing and presenting education programs.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The following duties are normal for this position. This list is not all-inclusive. Other duties may be required.

Maintains public use and park facilities within the county. Promotes safe use of conservation areas and facilities by the public.

Maintains and services vehicles, machines, and tools.

Regularly inspects park structures and facilities.

Constructs, cleans, maintains and repairs park structures, and buildings, including shelters, signs, handicap access, restrooms, camping pads, and parking lots.

Assists in developing and presenting environmental education programs.

Interacts with users of park facilities and areas. Gives presentations to civic organizations.

Responds to questions from park users.

Registers campers and collects camping fees.

Performs a variety of grounds keeping, landscaping and horticulture tasks. Mows grass and trims trees and other vegetation. Removes debris after storms. Applies fertilizer. Maintains trees in public use areas. Plants, prunes and thins trees. Removes dead or diseased trees.

Assists in planning, planting and maintenance of Acres for Wildlife areas.

Assists in the periodic burning of native prairie areas established on county and state lands. Controls the burning to prevent damage to surrounding farms and plots of timber.

Assigns, supervises, and evaluates the work of seasonal employees.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

The individual must possess the following knowledge, skills and abilities, or be able to explain and demonstrate that the individual can perform the essential functions of the job, with or without reasonable accommodation, using some other combination of skills and abilities. The individual also must be physically able to safely perform the essential functions of the job, with or without the aid of mechanical devices.

Knowledge of principles and methods of forestry, park maintenance, conservation, ecology, natural history, recreation and wildlife management.

Knowledge of local, state and federal ordinances and laws relating to conservation, recreation, wildlife management, and fish and game enforcement.

Knowledge of and skill in applying principles of carpentry, plumbing and electricity.

Knowledge of methods and tools used in welding and fabrication.

Ability to work effectively with people of all ages.

Ability to establish effective working relationships with the public, co-workers, and supervisors.

Skill at scheduling, assigning, supervising and evaluating the work of others.

Ability to safely operate and maintain a range of motor vehicles, including tractors and trucks.

Proficiency in gas and diesel mechanics.

Ability to safely operate firearms.

Ability to safely operate and maintain landscaping and construction machinery and tools including tractors, mowers, trimmers and weed cutters; saws, drills, hammers, measuring devices, chainsaws, and air powered tools.

Ability to safely operate and maintain electrical tools, including wire strippers, fish tape, pliers, wire nuts, and volt ohm meter.

Ability to safely operate fire making and destroying equipment, including torches and pumps.

Knowledge of techniques of vegetation management, including proper application of seed, fertilizer, and pesticides.

Ability to safely apply and work around chemicals associated with grounds maintenance, including pesticides and herbicides, and poisons.

Knowledge of pest control methods.

Knowledge of first aid techniques cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and procedures for working with blood borne pathogens.

Ability to safely perform heavy manual labor outdoors for extended periods.

Ability to safely perform a wide range of physical tasks, including walking on uneven ground; standing; climbing ladders; lifting, carrying pushing, or pulling amounts weighing up to 50 pounds; bending; kneeling; and balancing.

Ability to read and follow oral, written, and diagrammatic instructions.

Knowledge of proper feeding and care of animals.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Two year college degree and one year experience in a natural resources or conservation field;

or

An equivalent combination of education, training and experience that provides the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to perform the essential functions of the position.

Certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Possession of a valid Iowa Driver License, and must obtain a Class A Iowa Commercial Drivers Licences, with air brake endorsement within 60 days of hire.

Must obtain an Iowa Pesticide License within 6 months of hire, Category 6, and 3A

Must successfully complete a post-offer job-related medical examination.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Most work is performed outside on department grounds, in parks, recreation, conservation and wildlife areas. Work involves exposure to a variety of weather conditions, including extreme temperatures, snow, rain, hail and ice conditions. Work may involve heavy manual labor; climbing ladders; walking on uneven ground; lifting and carrying heavy objects; operating heavy objects; operating heavy equipment; and exposure to safety hazards, burns, cuts, animals, and toxic agents.

-
1. Marginal functions of the position that are incidental to the performance of essential job duties have been excluded from this job description.
 2. Essential functions are subject to possible modification to reasonable accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities. Prospective employees and incumbents are encouraged to discuss possible accommodations with the County.
 3. Job descriptions in no way state or imply that the description included every duty to be performed by the employee in the position. Employees will be required to follow any other job-related instructions and to perform any other job-related duties requested by their supervisor.
 4. The County reserves the right to change or reassign job duties or combine positions at any time.

Employee's Signature

Date

Executive Director

Date