San Diego County Office of Education
Personnel Commission

GARDENER

**Definition:**
Under general supervision performs journey level gardening and maintenance, installs and repairs related equipment and maintains the grounds in a clean and orderly manner; may lead the work of assigned personnel.

**Typical Tasks:**
Waters all planted areas according to individual and seasonal requirements; mows and edges lawn areas, trims and prunes trees, shrubbery and flowers; plans, installs and repairs complex electrical and battery operated sprinkler systems; prepares and applies pesticides, fertilizers and/or other chemical mixtures; rakes leaves and other debris; vacuums, sweeps and picks up debris from walkways, drives and other areas; weeds flower beds and other landscaped areas; prepares landscaped areas for planting, determining most appropriate plants; contacts vendors to research and order supplies and equipment; prepares simple reports and maintains gardening supply budget; keeps drains clear; monitors assigned area for parking and other problems; may lead the work of student workers or other grounds maintenance personnel; sprouts seedlings, and cares for other plants in the lath house; operates power or hand operated grounds keeping equipment such as edgers, yard vacuums, weed whips, electric cart, ground aerator, jack hammer, etc., maintains and stores tools and equipment; performs related duties as required.

**Minimum Qualifications:**
Skill in: the basic methods of landscape maintenance, watering, pruning, fertilizing and installing sprinkler systems; the use and simple maintenance of equipment and tools related to gardening. Knowledge of: regional plants and other individual maintenance requirements. Ability to: work independently; work safely; prioritize routine work; oversee the work of helpers; follow instructions; work well with others. Physical ability to: climb ladders; dig holes; walk, stand, kneel, crouch, stoop and bend on a daily basis for up to eight hours per day; push, pull, lift and carry objects and debris weighing up to 75 pounds. Must be able to tolerate exposure to chemicals, pesticides and adverse weather conditions.

**Desirable Qualifications**
Formal education in Nursery Landscaping and/or experience in gardening work at the journey level which would demonstrate the ability to successfully perform the duties of the job.

**Licenses**
Some positions in this classification may require the possession of a California Qualified Applicator license for pesticide application.

Established: 6/85

Revised: 11/91; 9/96

Approved by the Personnel Commission: November 8, 1991