



HORTICULTURIST

FLSA Status: Full-Time

Reports to: Horticulture Manager

Compensation: \$42,000/year plus health benefit stipend; vacation, sick and holiday PTO; retirement plan

JOB SUMMARY

Under the direction of the Horticulture Manager, the Horticulturist is responsible for the maintenance of the landscape and amenities along the Emerald Trail, McCoys Creek, and Hogans Creek.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Perform routine and seasonal maintenance of the Emerald Trail landscape, including mowing, weed eating, litter, and debris removal.
- Install landscapes and complete restoration projects, including site preparation and excavation.
- Transport plants and materials; haul and distribute mulch, sand, stone, and compost while ensuring all loads are properly secured.
- Operate and maintain tools and equipment, including hand tools (rakes, shovels, saws, pruners), power equipment (chainsaws, blowers, water pumps), and heavy machinery (mowers and motorboats), as well as work trucks and utility trailers.
- Apply herbicides and fertilizers in accordance with safety guidelines and best practices.
- Operate a motorboat to support maintenance activities and manage aquatic vegetation.
- Assist with tree pruning and removal.
- Perform irrigation tasks, including watering newly installed plants and completing minor irrigation system repairs.
- Maintain trail infrastructure, including cleaning and repairing signage, markers, and minor repairs to facilities such as light posts, trash receptacles, benches, and bike racks.
- Collect and transport trash to designated pickup locations.
- Clean and restock public restrooms.
- Support and assist volunteers during volunteer workdays.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- High School education
- Two-year landscaping or horticulture degree preferred
- Professional landscape certifications preferred
- Valid Florida Driver's License and good driving record

KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES

- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- Knowledge of basic horticulture, landscaping, and grounds maintenance practices, including mowing, trimming, planting, irrigation, and landscape restoration.
- Knowledge of safe operation procedures for hand tools, power tools, and heavy equipment used in landscape and trail maintenance.
- Knowledge of occupational hazards and safety procedures related to landscaping, equipment operation, and herbicide/fertilizer application.
- Knowledge of basic plant identification, including common Florida landscape plants and invasive species (preferred).
- Skill in operating and maintaining landscaping equipment and vehicles, including mowers, weed eaters, chainsaws, pole saws, blowers, motorboats, and work trucks with trailers.
- Ability to safely apply herbicides and fertilizers in accordance with instructions and safety guidelines.
- Ability to operate a boat for aquatic maintenance activities, including managing aquatic vegetation (training provided if required).
- Ability to read and follow work orders, instructions, safety labels, and basic site plans.
- Ability to perform physically demanding outdoor work in varying and sometimes adverse weather conditions.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a team and follow directions from supervisors.
- Ability to interact professionally with the public and assist volunteers as needed.
- Ability to maintain basic work records and complete routine documentation as required.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to work outside for extended periods of time.
- Ability to stand, stoop, bend, kneel for long periods of time.
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 lbs.
- Available to work a varied schedule (including Saturdays) in sometimes adverse weather conditions.

CONTACT

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to janet@groundworkjacksonville.org

Groundwork Jacksonville is the City of Jacksonville's nonprofit partner in building and maintaining the 30-mile Emerald Trail and restoring McCoys and Hogans creeks. When complete, this signature outdoor destination of trails, greenways and parks will encircle Jacksonville's urban core and connect 14 historic neighborhoods to downtown, McCoys and Hogans creeks, and the St. Johns River.