

**CLASS SPECIFICATION**  
**County of Fairfax, Virginia**

**CLASS CODE:** 3755    **TITLE:** HORTICULTURAL TECHNICIAN    **GRADE:** S-15

**DEFINITION:**

Under general supervision, performs skilled horticultural work or disseminates horticultural information on the propagation, care and protection of plant materials from insects and disease; makes independent judgments relying on knowledge of sound horticultural practices; and does related work as required.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:**

Not applicable.

**ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:**

Researches cultural and germination requirements of plant materials and maintains up-to-date knowledge of plant ecology and soil science;  
Produces through various propagation techniques, annual, perennial, and woody plant materials in staggered plantings to fit transplanting and blooming schedules and make maximum use of greenhouse space;  
Coordinates greenhouse "population" based on anticipated maturation, scheduled events, and transplanting schedules;  
Designs planting beds for parks and other County facilities;  
Designs and executes planting plan for the formal garden at Sully Plantation and the Government Center, researching historical varieties of plants;  
Performs necessary maintenance (spraying for insects and diseases, dead-heading, transplanting) for the Sully Plantation garden and the Government Center;  
Performs routine maintenance and minor repair to equipment and greenhouse;  
Complies with state and local laws regulating a licensed Pest Controller in the application of pesticides including keeping detailed records;  
May identify horticultural or insect problems for County residents and advise on choice, proper dosage and techniques for the use of pesticides, fertilizers and chemical disease control;  
Determines needed supplies and submits estimate of needs for purchase;  
Keeps daily work records, germination rates, performance of plant varieties and brands of seed for use as a planning tool;  
Orders seeds, "plugs" (flats of pre-germinated seeds) and other propagation materials from established contracts;  
Selects, prepares, delivers, places and removes requested plant materials grown and maintained for use at special events;  
Trains and supervises transplanting crews and personnel temporarily;  
Assigned to the greenhouse  
May insure that County libraries are provided with soil test kits and diagnostic forms submitted for analysis of fertility.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

Greenhouse or nursery operation;  
Horticultural characteristics of plant materials;  
Propagation techniques;  
Soil characteristics and plant requirements;  
Pest control techniques and regulations.

**EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:**

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to:  
High school graduation or a G.E.D. issued by a state department of education; PLUS  
Three years of progressively responsible experience in greenhouse, nursery work,  
technical horticultural work and/or the propagation of plant materials;  
An Associates Degree in Horticulture, Agriculture, Biology or related degree may be  
substituted for two years of the experience.

**CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:**

Assignment to the Park Authority Greenhouse also requires:  
Pest Controller's License;  
May be required to provide copies of driving record periodically for verification of  
driving status.

REVISED: June 13, 2012  
ESTABLISHED: September 14, 1992