



Vegetation Management Technician

Class code: 484

Employee Group: SEIU

Salary Range: 17

I. Position Summary

Under general supervision, to perform a variety of responsible duties involving the control of unwanted vegetation in targeted areas for reasons of visibility, drainage, road safety and aesthetics; to suppress the uncontrolled growth of brush and weeds along County road rights of way.

II. Distinguishing Features

This is a journey level classification. Employees work within a framework of standard policies and procedures. This classification exercises specialized knowledge of the biology and chemistry used to control the growth of vegetation and of safety requirements for working with and application of these control methods. This job class requires attention to detail and accuracy and the ability to communicate effectively with the public when required.

III. Examples of Essential Position Duties

- Assesses treatment sites to determine plant and soil types and best treatment options.
- Apply an integrated pest management approach to controlling unwanted vegetation by coordinating biological, chemical and cultural controls such as shouldering and mowing.
- May use GPS and laptop computer to map vegetation and document treatment sites.
- Measures, mixes, and loads pesticides into equipment according to the label.
- Applies pesticides in a safe and effective manner taking into account all risk and environmental factors in accordance with all State, Federal, and local regulations and label requirements.
- Operates, calibrates, and trouble shoots computerized injection system with ground speed sensor.
- Assesses treatment sites for treatment efficacy, plant resistance, and overall outcome.
- Maintains detailed records in accordance with all State, Federal, and County requirements.
- Maintains application equipment including pre-trip inspection, minor repairs and maintenance.
- Maintains warehouse including unloading trucks, container disposal, inventory control, and clean-up.
- Responds to public inquiries concerning work activities and general department policies and procedures; responds to formal and informal complaints in regard to spraying activities.
- Maintains Safety Data Sheets, Labels, and NPDES 2300A permit as required.
- Manually removes vegetation using chainsaws, pruners, and string trimmers.
- Operates a variety of mowers including an articulated flail arm mower.
- Sets up work zones according to the MUTCD and controls traffic.
- May be assigned to perform other road maintenance tasks in other Roads divisions as operational needs arise.
- Adheres to County and departmental policies and procedures as well as safe work practices, policies and procedures.

- Develops and maintains effective working relationships with other staff, public officials, the general public and representatives of other agencies.
- Attends and participates in required trainings.
- Has regular and reliable attendance.
- Overtime may be required.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

IV. Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Requires knowledge of various plants and weeds and methods of identification; chemicals and safe methods for their use in controlling weeds and brush. Ability to demonstrate adequate proficiency in equipment operation; safely and effectively operate a tank truck, computerized pesticide sprayers and related equipment; acquire and maintain appropriate licensing and accreditation; use basic arithmetic to calibrate equipment ensuring proper mixes of chemicals, water, and the correct amounts needed to cover targeted areas; read and understand labels on chemical containers and a variety of manuals, forms and policy guidelines related to pesticide spraying requirements and standards; qualify for and maintain a commercial driver's license; schedule work; operate a computer, small hand and power tools used in the course of work; prepare clear and accurate records and reports; understand and carry out both oral and written directions; communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted in the course of work; interpret and explain department policies and procedures as necessary.

V. Minimum Requirements (*Performance of the essential duties of this position includes the following requirements, physical demands and/or working conditions*)

Education and Experience

- Any combination of education and experience equivalent to completion of two years of college level course work in the study of weed science, agronomy, horticulture, botany, organic or pesticide chemistry AND one year of work related experience; OR
- Any combination of education and experience which provides the applicant with the desired skills, knowledge, and ability required to perform the job.

Licenses, Certificates and Other

- Possession of a valid, Oregon Class "A" Commercial Driver's License with tank endorsement within six months of hire and an acceptable driving record.
- Possession of a valid Oregon Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicator license within six months of hire.
- Maintain the continuing education credits for the Public Pesticide Applicator license with all required endorsements.

Physical Demands (*Performance of the essential duties of this position includes the following physical demands and/or working conditions*)

Requires the ability to frequently lift, carry, push, pull, or otherwise move objects up to 75 pounds and to stoop, crouch, climb and lift in performance of manual labor; operate a variety of tools, equipment and vehicles used in performance of daily tasks; ability to work around electrical currents and/or hazardous materials in a safe manner. Requires the ability to operate a motor vehicle. Tasks involve ability to sit or stand for long periods.

Working Environments

Incumbents are exposed to adverse weather, including extreme temperatures, rain, snow, sleet and hail. Incumbents are also exposed to dangerous or unpleasant conditions and substances, including noise, dust, heat, cold, chemicals, paint, traffic hazards, noxious plants and wildlife. May include exposure to disruptive people.

VI. Additional Information

This classification description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of duties, knowledge, skills, abilities, or requirements, as any one position in this classification may be assigned some or all of these duties, in addition to other duties not explicitly listed here. The various duties, responsibilities and/or assignments of this position may be unevenly balanced and change from time to time based upon matters such as, but not limited to, variations in the shift, work demands, seasons, service levels and management's decisions on how to best allocate department resources. Any shift, emphasis or rebalancing of these assigned duties, responsibilities and/or assignments does not constitute a change in the job classification.

Revised: 11/19