

NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation

DIVISION: Park Environmental Services

TITLE OF POSITION: Gardener

DESCRIPTION OF POSITION: Under direction, plants, transplants, fertilizes, applies chemicals, waters, prunes and weeds flower beds and plant areas; maintains bushes, trees and shrubs; operates irrigation systems; performs other related duties as required. Organizes assigned gardening work, analyzes gardening problems, and develops effective work methods. Prepares soil and plots of ground for planting. Sows seeds. Marks out borders, beds, and areas for planting. Transplants seedlings, potted plants, shrubs and trees. Weeds flower beds and maintains mulch and borders. Sprays plants and trees to prevent or treat diseases or insect pests. Cuts, pulls and treats invasive plants. Prunes and clips shrubbery, bushes and hedges. Seeds, sods, waters, fertilizes, mows, weeds, rakes and trims lawns. Assigns and instructs helpers, seasonal employees, and volunteers assigned to gardening work, and supervises the performance of their work. Mixes and applies herbicides and pesticides. Assists in snow removal from park paths, sidewalks and parking areas through the use of a shovel, snowblower or truck with snow plow. Operates and maintains irrigation systems. Operates trucks of various sizes, sometimes towing a trailer, to pick up and deliver tools, motorized equipment, and plant materials or trees. Loads, moves, dumps and spreads topsoil, mulch, crushed stone and other bulk materials. Ensures the proper and safe use and care of equipment, tools and supplies, including the sharpening and repair of tools. Ensures the proper and safe use and care of motor vehicles and motorized equipment, including fueling, preventative maintenance and minor repairs. Maintains inventories of chemicals, including fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. Maintains inventories of hand tools, horticultural supplies, small motorized tools and vehicles. Prepares reports and maintains essential records and files.

EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION: One year of experience in the planting and maintenance of lawns, flowers, shrub beds, and gardens. Knowledge of gardening and groundskeeping practices. Knowledge of the methods used to plant and care for flowers, plants, shrubbery, trees, lawns and other garden vegetation. Knowledge of the planning of large-scale gardening work. Knowledge of the equipment, tools, materials and supplies used in large-scale gardening. Knowledge of proper procedures and techniques to fuel, operate, maintain and perform routine repair of motorized equipment and motor vehicles. Knowledge of weeds, invasive plants, plant diseases and insect pests. Knowledge of the use of insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers and other chemicals. Knowledge of the operation, adjustment and repair of irrigation systems. Ability to analyze, comprehend, and interpret gardening problems likely to be encountered on the grounds of public parks. Ability to perform the work involved in sowing seeds and planting, transplanting, growing, fertilizing, and harvesting flowers, shrubs, and trees. Ability to load, move and spread topsoil, mulch, crushed stone and other bulk materials.

Ability to shovel snow, operate a snowblower and operate a truck with snow plow. Ability to prepare reports and maintain essential records and files. Ability to learn how to utilize various types of electronic and/or manual recording and information systems used by the County of Union. Ability to write emails, to compose letters or memorandums, and to create and maintain spreadsheets and databases. Ability to read, write, speak, understand and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the duties of this position. Persons with mental or physical disabilities are eligible if they can perform the essential functions of the job, with or without reasonable accommodation. If the accommodation cannot be made without causing undue hardship to the County, such persons may not be eligible.

LICENSES: Must possess valid licensure and certification as a Commercial Pesticide Applicator in one or more categories pertinent to this position, or be willing to obtain it within 6 months of appointment to the position.

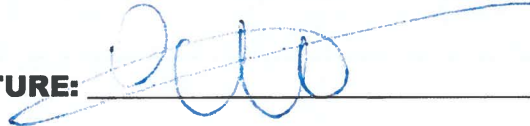
Must possess a driver's license valid in New Jersey.

SALARY RANGE: \$47,092 - \$63,377

ISSUE DATE: August 23,2023

CLOSING DATE: September 15,2023

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE: _____



PRINT NAME: Victoria Durbin-Drake

TITLE: Director, Dept Park & Recreation

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY CONTACT

PERSONNEL

908-527-4824

**UNION COUNTY IS AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

UNION COUNTY RESIDENCY REQUIRED