JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Gardener, Full-Time
Department: McGovern Centennial Gardens Operations
Work Location: Hermann Park, Houston, TX
Full-time/Part-time: Full-Time, Weekdays
Effective Date: Immediately
Reports To: Horticulture Manager

Primary Focus:
Hermann Park is one of Houston’s premier historic greenspaces, home to the city’s most iconic public gardens and park amenities. Hermann Park Conservancy is a citizens’ organization dedicated to the stewardship and improvement of Hermann Park, today and for generations to come. The Gardener will join a dedicated and diverse team responsible for landscape and horticulture maintenance throughout Hermann Park, including locations at McGovern Centennial Gardens, Lott Hall, Lake Plaza, and the Japanese Garden.

Duties and Responsibilities:
• Physically perform general grounds maintenance including but not limited to pruning, trimming, mulching, weeding, raking, planting, watering, fertilizing, spraying, trash removal, etc.
• Occasionally lead a small team of part time employees and volunteers to uphold maintenance standards to the highest degree in an assigned garden zone
• Operate battery or gas powered equipment including but not limited to golf carts, blowers, power washers, and spray equipment.
• Apply pesticides, herbicides, biological controls, and fertilizers using IPM approach as required and directed, prioritizing organic methods. Be vigilant and proactive to monitor quality and health of plants within the park.
• Shovel, load, transport, and spread mulch, gravel, soil, compost, and other bulk materials to project locations in the field.
• Work together as a team or individually; be willing to assist in other operational areas including setting up furniture for events, cleaning, and light housekeeping duties.
• Interact with the public and assist in monitoring public behavior to educate garden visitors on acceptable garden etiquette. Perform duties in a manner consistent with a public garden serving multi-cultural/generational families.
• Complete daily timesheets and inventory logs to record activity
• Clean and secure all equipment at the end of the day; notify supervisor of any tool or supply needs.
• Assist in group and special projects as required; Lead volunteers and groups assigned to your areas.
• Monitor and assist maintenance staff with irrigation systems and report malfunctions.
• Comply with all safety and PPE requirements of the organization.
• Other duties as assigned.

Skills & Qualifications:
• Minimum education: High school diploma
• 4 years verifiable experience working in a landscape maintenance setting (commercial landscape services, resort/botanic garden, or similar environment), OR
• 2 years experience with completion of professional training as a Texas Master Naturalist, Texas Master Gardener, Certified Landscape Professional, or similar horticulture program
• A degree in horticulture, agronomy, forestry, conservation, or related field
• Experience working in groups or independently with minimal supervision.
• Must possess a valid Texas driver’s license with a current clean record, able to work legally in the United States.
• Must pass a background check and pre-employment drug test, and random drug tests throughout employment.
• Must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
Working Conditions

- Required to work at a public park with a high degree of public interaction.
- Required to perform work outdoors, occasionally in adverse weather conditions.
- Required to perform manual labor, including lifting supplies and materials up to 50 lbs.
- Must be able to bend, squat, kneel, stand, and walk for extended periods of time.
- Must conform to Hermann Park Conservancy dress and grooming standards, work rules, and safety procedures.
- Able to work flexible hours as needed, including a rotation for nights, weekends, and holidays.

Compensation and Hours

- $16.16 - $17.50 hourly
- 40 hours per week, full-time
- Occasional overtime
- Health, dental, and life Insurance after 3 months
- Matching 403b program after 6 months
- Paid time off begins accruing immediately

Benefits

- 401b matching
- Dental insurance
- Employee discount
- Flexible schedule
- Health insurance
- Health savings account
- Life insurance
- Paid time off
- Professional development assistance
- Referral program
- Vision insurance

COVID-19 Considerations

- All employees must be vaccinated against COVID-19

How to Apply

E-mail job application and resume to:

Hermann Park Conservancy
Attn: Horticulture Manager
1700 Hermann Drive
Houston, TX 77004
E-mail: employment@hermannpark.org