

# HORTICULTURAL WORKER II

**Department: Environmental Control**

**Classification: Non-Competitive**

**Specification Number: 2980**

**Approved: 3/10/23**

**Revised: By JG**

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Either:

a) Graduation from a New York State or Regionally accredited college or university with an Associate's Degree or major in Horticulture and two (2) years of experience in the care, planting, and identification and diagnosis of insect and disease problems of plants, flowers, shrubs and trees in a greenhouse, nursery or landscaping operation, one (1) year of which must have included conducting classes in various aspects of horticulture; or,

b) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and four (4) years of experience in the care, planting, and identification and diagnosis of insect and disease problems on plants, flowers, shrubs and trees in a greenhouse, nursery or landscaping operation, one (1) year of which must have included conducting classes in various aspects of horticulture; or,

c) Satisfactory equivalent combination of education and experience as defined by the limits of a) and b) or

d) Two years of service as a Horticultural Worker.

**NOTE:** Possession of a Master Gardener's Certificate from Cornell Cooperative Extension can be substituted for one year of non-teaching experience.

## DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

An employee in this title plans and teaches classes in various aspects of horticulture and performs specialized work in the care and planting of plants, flowers, shrubs and trees in a greenhouse, nursery or landscaped area. The employee may assume responsibility for maintenance and repairs in a greenhouse and the supervision of other workers in routine tasks. Work is performed independently, with indirect supervision from a higher level department employee. Performance is subject to review through observation and frequent consultation. Does related work as required.

## TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES

Plans and teaches classes in different aspects of horticulture to the general public and various groups, such as senior citizens, children, disabled, and women's groups;

Gives lectures on topics such as pruning, organic gardening, planting, and fertilizing;

Gathers materials and supplies for classes;

Prepares and cleans up classroom;

Performs greenhouse and nursery work, such as preparing soil, sowing seeds, cultivating and transplanting seedlings or cuttings, and watering, fertilizing and potting plants;

Does experimental planting and gardening in various mixtures of soil, sand, compost and other materials;

Performs soil analysis and testing;

Assists in the planning, preparation and completion of landscaping and gardening projects;

Supervises other workers in aspects of nursery, greenhouse and landscaping work;

May be required to perform semi-skilled laboring duties, such as removing snow from sidewalks, mowing grass, raking leaves, picking up debris, and moving supplies and equipment.

## KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES and PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Thorough knowledge of the methods used in propagating, planting, cultivating, pruning, watering, fertilizing, and the general care of plants, flowers, shrubs and lawns; thorough knowledge of the growth characteristics and typical diseases of a wide variety of flowers and plants, thorough knowledge of the materials and tools used in greenhouse, nursery and landscaping work; skill in the use of gardening equipment and tools; ability to understand and carry out written and oral instructions; ability to express oneself clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; ability to supervise the work of a small number of subordinates in a manner conducive to full performance and high morale; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.