



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
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Los Angeles, California 90065
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JOB OPPORTUNITY BULLETIN
GARDEN SPECIALIST – LOS ANGELES RIVER CENTER & GARDENS
August 13, 2008

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) is recruiting a **Garden Specialist** to oversee, develop, and maintain planting areas as well as maintain irrigation, fountains, and other park elements at the MRCA's Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.

The employee will perform a variety of skilled gardening and maintenance work. He/she must be able to work as a crew member as well as independently. Must have good judgment in decision-making and be able to make regular progress on tasks independently.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Install and maintain planting throughout park grounds. Determine maintenance needs with daily inspection of all areas. Plant, water, weed, fertilize, and spray plants, shrubs and trees.
- Develop and execute seasonal planting plans for park grounds and courtyards.
- Purchase and select supplies, locate suppliers and purchase plants as needed.
- Identify problems such as diseases, weeds, insect pests, and user damage. Set planting care schedules. Apply pesticides and fertilizers as needed.
- Provide proper upkeep of courtyards, fountains, sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, picnic lawns, and other grounds features, including daily removal of leaves and debris from all areas. Pick up litter and trash, empty trash cans, remove graffiti.
- Maintain and adjust irrigation systems. Diagnose and repair irrigation systems, clean sprinkler heads. Maintain and clean park fountains. Maintain buildings, picnic grounds, and restrooms in good condition as necessary.
- Operate and maintain light equipment such as mowers, edgers, blowers, and brush cutters, and hand tools.
- Follow and enforce operating procedures for safety regulations and quality control.
- May supervise volunteers, court crews, seasonal workers, and youth crews. Train employees in horticultural practices. Review employees' work to evaluate quality and quantity.
- Assist visitors to the park.
- Follow written and verbal directions.

REQUIRED SKILLS:

- 3 years of experience dealing with plant care, grounds maintenance, protection of flora and fauna, and public facility care
- Detailed knowledge of growth habits and patterns, care requirements, and special needs for both exotic ornamentals and native California plants
- Training in arboriculture, horticulture and irrigation systems, pesticide certification
- Ability to work independently and with others; work safely using hand and power tools; perform minor mechanical repairs; perform heavy physical labor, including lifting and carrying items weighing up to 90 pounds for a distance up to 50 feet
- Outgoing individual with experience dealing with the public
- High School diploma with training in natural resources or closely related field
- Valid California Drivers License with a satisfactory driving record
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, certification for CPR and First Aid Certificate within three months of hire
- Must be fluent in English. Proficiency in Spanish is desirable but not required

PAY: \$16.15 - \$19.62 per hour

REQUIRED HOURS: 40 hours a week, possible weekend schedule

TO APPLY, CONTACT: Maribelle Franco, (323) 221-9944, extension 181