GENERAL PURPOSE
Under general supervision, performs a variety of skilled, journey-level tasks involved in the installation, maintenance and repair of manual, automatic and computerized irrigation systems; performs a variety of skilled and semi-skilled grounds maintenance duties; and performs related duties as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS
Irrigation & Grounds Maintenance Technician is a skilled, journey-level class in the operations and maintenance class series. An incumbent is responsible for performing a variety of duties in the installation, maintenance and repair of the District’s irrigation systems and maintenance of District grounds and landscaped areas. An incumbent is responsible for performing assigned duties independently, working from general instructions and work orders. Assignments vary, encompass a variety of tasks, and require sound judgment and initiative.

Irrigation & Grounds Maintenance Technician is distinguished from Grounds Maintenance Worker in that an incumbent in the former class specializes in installing, maintaining and repairing irrigation systems, requiring a greater knowledge of irrigation requirements of large landscaped areas.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
The duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to this class.

1. Installs, modifies, maintains, upgrades and repairs manual and automatic irrigation systems, including pipes, valves, automatic control devices and sprinkler heads; locates mainlines, sprinkler lines, valves and electrical wires; performs preventive maintenance on irrigation systems; plans and lays out new irrigation system installations, working from general instructions, rough sketches or work orders.

2. Inputs, cleans and adjusts sprinkler controls for correct time and duration of operation; ensures irrigation system operation supports District conservation objectives; services, repairs or replaces clock motors and micro-switches in automatic timing devices.

3. Maintains and replaces valves; unplugs and reroutes water and control lines; clears and adjusts sprinkler head heights for proper area coverage.

4. Mows turf areas throughout the District using a gang mower, riding mower or power mower.

5. Mows, trims, edges, rakes, fertilizes, aerates and waters flower beds, hedges, trees and lawns; weeds, mulches, feeds, fertilizes, irrigates and sprays lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers; prunes trees, plants...
and shrubs and picks up and hauls cuttings to trash bins; installs sod, reseeds, fertilizes and renovates
lawns and fields; removes landscaping, trees, shrubs, grasses and plants and re-plants as necessary;
monitors health and appearance of lawns, bushes, trees and flower beds and diagnoses and treats pest,
disease and weed problems; mixes and applies various herbicides and pesticides and prepares reports
as required.

6. Cleans and maintains landscaped areas, paved areas, paths and walks; sweeps and vacuums
sidewalks, driveways and parking lots and performs general grounds cleaning; picks up litter, garbage
and organic debris from landscaped areas and grounds; picks up and dumps trash cans and other litter
receptacles; inspects and cleans storm drains and gutters.

7. Operates a variety of power and hand tools and equipment, including testing and measuring gauges
and devices, mowers, trimmers, edgers, vacuums, power shears, chain saws, sprayers and weed
eaters; maintains and performs minor repairs and maintenance on irrigation and grounds equipment.

8. Maintains routine records of work orders and equipment repair; orders and maintains an inventory of
parts, supplies and materials.

OTHER DUTIES

1. Assists other skilled maintenance personnel in cooperative assignments.

2. Operates vehicles to travel to various District sites and ensures proper maintenance of District
vehicles.

3. Performs a variety of groundskeeping-related maintenance tasks.

4. Disposes of rodents and dead animals from grounds.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

1. Methods and materials used in the maintenance and repair of automatic sprinkler systems
including various timing devices, controllers, valves and heads.

2. Design and layout of general irrigation systems for large landscaped areas.

3. Proper methods of pipefitting as related to sprinkler installation.

4. Equipment and tools required in sprinkler repair and installation.

5. Proper water conservation techniques applicable to the operation of large turf irrigation systems.

6. Sizes and specifications of pipes and fittings for proper volume and pressure.

7. Basic grounds maintenance procedures including mowing, edging, raking and weeding.

8. Cultivating, fertilizing, watering and spraying flowers, trees and shrubs.

9. Herbicides, pesticides and other chemicals used in grounds maintenance.
10. Methods and materials used in controlling pests, insects and weeds.

11. Safe work procedures in the operation of hand and power tools and the disposal of chemicals.

12. Relevant health and safety regulations.

13. Basic record-keeping techniques.

**Ability to:**

1. Plan, layout, install and repair manual and automatic irrigation systems.

2. Operate tools and equipment used in the repair and maintenance of irrigation systems including pipe threaders, cutters and trenching equipment.

3. Read and interpret blueprints of landscape irrigation systems.

4. Estimate time and materials for system repair work.

5. Perform semi-skilled grounds maintenance duties including prioritizing and scheduling work on school grounds and athletic fields.

6. Mow, edge, water, weed, fertilize and cultivate lawns, flower beds, athletic fields and other landscaped areas.

7. Mix and apply specialized chemicals to control and eradicate weeds, insects and other pests.

8. Operate a variety of power and hand tools and motorized equipment including tractor, backhoe, gang mower, riding mower, edgers and turf vacuum.

9. Understand and follow oral and written instructions.

10. Order and maintain irrigation parts and supplies.

11. Work independently and use sound judgment in performing irrigation and grounds maintenance activities.

12. Maintain routine records.

13. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with District management, staff and others encountered in the course of work.

**Education, Training and Experience:**

A typical way of obtaining the knowledge, skills and abilities outlined above is graduation from high school or G.E.D. equivalent; and two years of increasingly responsible experience in the installation, maintenance and repair of landscape irrigation systems, including their electronic controls; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

**Licenses; Certificates; Special Requirements:**

A valid California driver’s license and the ability to maintain insurability under the District’s vehicle insurance policy.
PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEMANDS

The physical and mental demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this class. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Physical Demands

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools or controls; and reach with hands and arms. The employee frequently is required to stand and talk or hear; walk or sit; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl. The employee must regularly lift and/or move up to 50 pounds, and occasionally over 100 pounds.

Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

Mental Demands

While performing the duties of this class, the incumbent is regularly required to use written and oral communication skills; read and interpret data, information and documents; analyze and solve problems; use shop mathematics; observe and interpret situations; deal with changing, intensive deadlines; and interact with District management, staff and others encountered in the course of work.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this class. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

The employee frequently works in extreme outside weather conditions, near moving mechanical parts, and on slippery and uneven surfaces. The employee is frequently exposed to wet or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, and risk of electrical shock. The noise level in the work environment is frequently loud.