

PARKS DESIGNER I

This is professional landscape design work in the development and maintenance of master plans for state parks, in the development of landscape plans for individual projects, and in the design and construction of projects through acting as project manager.

Employees in this class collect and analyze data concerning population, recreational needs, natural features, vegetation, geology, and hydrology; and prepare park master plans which provide for recreational needs while preserving natural features and vegetation. Employees also prepare plans for individual landscape projects necessary in the development and maintenance of parks and serve as project managers during the design and construction phases of park projects. Work is performed under the general technical supervision of a higher level Parks Designer.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Variety and Scope - Employees perform master planning for assigned state parks, act as project managers performing necessary landscape design work and coordinating the design work of architects or engineers, perform project administration work for projects designed or constructed by outside contractors, and monitor construction for adherence to plans and specifications.

Intricacy - Employees prepare and revise master plans, perform landscape design work, and act as project manager for park features such as campgrounds, roadways, swimming or boating facilities, boardwalks, lakes, and nature trails at parks located throughout the state. Proposed development must be compatible with local vegetation and geographic features which vary considerably from park to park.

Subject Matter Complexity - Employees perform the full range of landscape design work related to the design of parks and natural areas. Employees, when functioning as project managers, must fulfill all technical and administrative requirements involved in the selection of designers, the design, bidding, and construction phase of projects.

Guidelines - Various state guidelines regulating the construction of public facilities must be adapted due to the nature of construction in state parks. Standard landscape architectural manuals must be adapted for these reasons, also.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Nature of Instructions - Instructions include project expectations and physical or monetary constraints. The technical portions of work assignments are generally left up to the employee.

Nature of Review - Project status is reviewed periodically. Technical design work is performed independently.

Scope of Decisions - The preparation and revision of master plans ultimately affect park users. Decisions made as project manager over projects designed and constructed by outside contractors affect these contractors.

Consequence of Decisions - Decisions could slow down park development or improvement, causing some inconvenience to the using public or result in cost overruns in construction.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Scope of Contacts - Considerable contact with the general public or representatives of environmental groups during public hearings on proposed park development projects. Considerable contact with architects and engineers while functioning as project manager.

Nature and Purpose - During public meetings, proposed projects are explained and opinions gathered from those present. Contacts with architects and engineers are to negotiate points of disagreement concerning proposed design, construction materials or methods, or costs.

IV. OTHER WORK DEMANDS:

Work Conditions - Site surveys may be performed in inclement weather.

Hazards - While performing site surveys, employees are exposed to the hazards of the forest such as poisonous plants or snakes. Over-exposure to the sun is possible when performing survey or inspection work at water-oriented state parks.

V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities - Considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of landscape architecture. Skill in the use of mechanical drawing instruments. Ability to analyze data and prepare landscape designs which preserve the environment while satisfying user needs. Ability to maintain effective working relationships with other technical personnel in a negotiative process. Ability to coordinate construction projects.

Minimum Training and Experience - Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in landscape architecture and three years of experience in landscape design or development work; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.