



## CLASS SPECIFICATION

1-12-06

### IRRIGATION SPECIALIST, 3913

**Summary of Duties:** An Irrigation Specialist performs skilled irrigation work by installing and repairing irrigation systems including sprinkler heads, fittings, valves, water lines, and irrigation control wiring. Incumbents may also perform routine ground maintenance and landscaping work and may act as a lead worker over employees engaged in irrigation, ground maintenance, or landscaping work; and does related work.

**Distinguishing Features:** The work performed by an employee of this class is distinguished from that of a Senior Gardener and Water Utility Worker in that an Irrigation Specialist primarily performs irrigation work in parks, golf courses, planter beds, and other landscaped areas involving galvanized, copper, or PVC piping up to fourteen inches in diameter. Senior Gardeners perform a broader range of gardening and grounds maintenance work including planting, cultivating, trimming, spraying, and fertilizing grasses, trees, flowers, and shrubs with irrigation work as an infrequent, incidental duty. Water Utility Workers install, maintain, replace, and repair water mains and irrigation systems typically involving much larger systems that can be up to ten feet in diameter.

Irrigation Specialists may act as a lead worker over employees involved in irrigation, grounds maintenance, and landscaping work. Supervision received consists of general supervision from a Park Maintenance Supervisor or Trade Supervisor such as a Plumber Supervisor.

#### **Example of Duties:**

- Repairs and replaces sprinkler heads, fittings, valves, water lines, and breaks in irrigation control wiring;
- Repairs leaks in irrigation systems involving galvanized, copper, or PVC pipe up to fourteen inches in diameter;
- Installs valves and metering devices at points of connection to main water source;
- Installs main and lateral line irrigation pipe, valves and sprinkler heads;
- Digs and backfills trenches to desired depth by using trencher, backhoe, and hand tools;
- Installs, programs, and maintains computer based central and field unit systems (controllers) using power source of 24 volts or less;
- Lays and connects irrigation control wires from valves to controllers;
- Tests irrigation system for hydraulic integrity;
- Ensures that plants, shrubs, and turf are receiving appropriate irrigation coverage;
- Sets and adjusts water distribution in parks and on golf courses;
- Reads and reviews blueprints and estimates the time, cost, and materials necessary for irrigation projects;
- Maintains water features and water pads;
- Works with contractors in coordinating the construction and repair of irrigation systems;
- May assist in the design off irrigation systems;
- May act as a lead worker, or supervise employees engaged in irrigation, landscaping, routine gardening, or ground maintenance work;
- May perform general gardening, landscaping, or grounds maintenance work.

**Qualifications:****Knowledge of:**

- Methods of repairing and replacing irrigation piping systems including water lines, valves and sprinklers;
- Repair of various types of water lines such as galvanized and PVC piping;
- Trenching and shoring techniques;
- The use and care of gardening and maintenance equipment and tools;
- The routine care and maintenance of golf courses, recreation areas, and ground around buildings;
- Practices and principles of safety and first aid.

**The ability to:**

- Install and repair irrigation systems including water lines, valves, and sprinklers;
- Operate power equipment used for trenching and shoring;
- Use various plumbing and hand construction tools;
- Use electronic diagnostic equipment;
- Deal tactfully and effectively with the public;
- Estimate the time, cost, and materials necessary for irrigation projects.

**Minimum Requirements:**

Employment as a Gardener Caretaker or Senior Gardener with the City of Los Angeles **and** completion of the Irrigation Specialist Training Program offered by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, Airports, or Bureau of Street Services within the last five years.

**License and Certificates:**

A valid California driver's license may be required prior to appointment

Persons with medical limitations may, with reasonable accommodations, be capable of performing the duties of some of the positions in this class. Such determination must be made on an individual basis in light of the person's limitations, the requirements of the position, and the appointing authority's ability to effect reasonable accommodations to the person's limitations.

**As provided in Civil Service Commission Rule 2.5 and Section 4.55 of the Administrative Code, this specification is descriptive, explanatory and not restrictive. It is not intended to declare what all of the duties and responsibilities of any position shall be.**