

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
CLASS SPECIFICATION

NATURAL RESOURCES TECHNICIAN I

POSITION CODE: 28851
Effective: 10-1-02

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under direct supervision, performs a variety of routine technical tasks in connection with the operation and maintenance of a phase of the Natural Resource Program at such Natural Resources facilities as tree nurseries, fish hatcheries, game farms and sanctuaries; participates in supportive activities pertaining to fish, wildlife, forestry or natural heritage operations; operates and repairs equipment; maintains grounds, buildings and facilities; collects fish, wildlife, forestry or natural heritage information; prepares reports as requested.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Operates the incubators and brooder houses for the game program; provides game with fresh feed and water; moves adult birds to laying houses; trays, sets and fumigates eggs; cleans manure trays; washes hatchery trays; walks the rows and observes birds for signs of disease; debeaks birds using a hot blade; removes dead birds from pens; cleans and disinfects brooder buildings; boxes birds to prepare for transporting to other game farms, hunting areas and field trials.
2. Feeds, weighs, ages and grades fish; cleans fish tanks; takes water samples; takes fish population samples for estimating fish weights and growth; moves fish to rearing ponds; assists in the harvesting of fish from rearing ponds; assists in making fish deliveries.
3. Makes tree and shrub counts in nursery areas; examines trees for insects or disease; digs trees and shrub seedlings; packages and prepares seedlings for distribution; keeps seedbeds free of grass and weeds.
4. Conducts prairie chicken population counts and nest searches; operates tractors, seeders, and sprayers; plants, harvests, and processes prairie grass seed; controls pheasant populations via trapping and other means, weighs, ages, and sexes specimens collected.
5. Performs tasks in seed collection, processing, fumigation, sowing and mulching; applies herbicides as directed; prepares seedling tree orders for shipping by counting, grading and weighing.
6. Prepares habitat areas for birds by spreading litter such as wood chips and limestone, and by discing, dragging, planting and mowing cover strips; assists in trapping, banding and transporting wildlife.

NATURAL RESOURCES TECHNICIAN I (Continued)

7. Maintains wildlife, fisheries or forestry equipment and grounds; repairs gates to pheasant pens; builds quail flight pens; repairs and replaces fences; mows grass; cuts weeds and brush; oils and cleans shocking equipment.
8. Maintains Natural Resource records; prepares reports as requested.
9. May serve as lead worker to seasonal, intermittent, and volunteer workers or other help.
10. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience

Requires knowledge, skill and mental development equivalent to completion of high school.

May require possession of a public operator license for the application of pesticides. Requires one year unskilled work experience in fish, wildlife, forestry or natural heritage resource activities, such as trail building, maintaining Natural Resources buildings and grounds, repairing fences, conducting foot tours, and transporting fish in tank trucks.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires possession of an appropriate valid driver's license.

Requires working knowledge of Natural Resources resource equipment operation and maintenance.

Requires elementary knowledge of the care and feeding of fish or game birds, or the methods and techniques used in tree seeding.

Requires elementary knowledge of pesticide usage in fish, wildlife, forestry and natural heritage activities.

Requires ability to understand and follow written and oral instructions.

Requires ability to operate, maintain and make minor repairs to Natural Resources equipment.

Requires ability to prepare and maintain regular operating records and reports.

Requires ability to understand the use, application and implication of the use of pesticides, and to handle, store and apply chemicals as per labeling directions.

Requires ability to work under adverse environmental conditions.

May require ability to provide task-related direction to seasonal or intermittent workers and volunteers.