

MAINTENANCE MECHANIC I (FARMING)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, an incumbent of this class assists the Senior Maintenance Mechanic II (Farmer) and performs a variety of duties related to farming and care of farm animals at Muscote Farm. The incumbent works in situations which provide training to develop skills and knowledge. In general, jobs involve learning proper practices and skills such as the use of tools, equipment and chemicals used on the farm. This position may act for the Senior Maintenance Mechanic II (Farmer) in his absence, including supervision of subordinate positions. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only):

Assists the Senior Maintenance Mechanic II (Farmer) in the animal management program for the livestock collection including: breeding, birthing, feeding, cleaning, milking, veterinary issues, record keeping, dispensing medication in order to ensure their health and safety as well as the safety of the viewing public;

Ensures that safety procedures are followed by the staff when dealing with the animals;

Observes behavioral changes in animals that are health indicators, such as changes in appetite, habits, disposition and appearance and reports to the Senior Maintenance Mechanic II (Farmer) as necessary;

Interacts daily with the public and interprets life on a "gentleman's farm" as it relates to the historically accurate animal collection: informs the public as to which type animals they have in the collection and why, and explains the care and maintenance of same;

Operates all equipment: tractors, hay rake, teed, baler, spreader, mowers, blowers, plow, sander, dump truck, hay wagon, milking machine, etc., necessary to the maintenance of the farm;

Assists in landscape and gardening projects including the planting of historical crops and interpretive gardens;

Participates in the overall work of the farm including mowing, building and fence maintenance, composting, pruning, floral area maintenance, equipment maintenance, etc.;

Assists in the overall maintenance of plant material including fertilizing, pest and disease control, watering, etc;

Trains lower level personnel and seasonal staff in the proper techniques and care of the livestock collection;

Assists in the overall maintenance of the Farm including cleaning, plowing, haying , mowing, spreading manure, repairing fence lines, gates and farm related equipment;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only) (Cont'd.)

Participates in large programs and festivals held on the Farm: assists in preparation of the site, stage set up, and interacts with public as needed on the day of the event;

Depending on work location, may operate equipment and devices, participates in snow removal as assigned;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

May perform other incidental tasks, as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge of the practices, procedures and techniques of modern farm management; good knowledge of the care and management of farm animals, including artificial insemination, birthing and delivery; good knowledge of the operation and maintenance of farm equipment; good knowledge of the processes, methods and terminology necessary to the growing of crops and hay; good knowledge of the accident and safety precautions of the trade; good knowledge of grounds care; knowledge of building repair and maintenance; familiarity with agricultural chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides; ability to organize, schedule and plan the work of the farm; ability to understand and carry out written and oral instructions; ability to supervise the work of subordinate staff; ability to communicate effectively with the public; ability to effectively use computer applications and other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, email and database software; ability to read, write, speak, understand and communicate sufficiently in English to perform the essential functions of the position; initiative; good judgment; tact; patience; physical condition commensurate with the duties of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Either: (a) three years experience in the operation and maintenance of a working farm, which included care of animals; or (b) completion of an appropriate two year vocational school course.*

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: (1) Possession of a valid New York State Operators License appropriate to the equipment operated. (2) Depending on work assignment, must meet standards of OSHA regulation 1910.134 Respiratory Protection, and will be required to meet Federal, State and local standards with respect to health and safety. (3) Depending on work assignment, may be required to be a Certified Pesticide Applicator in New York State, within the appropriate category.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Department of Education as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.