

## **PARK RANGER (NATURAL AREA MANAGEMENT)**

### **DEFINITION**

Under direction, responsible as the lead worker of a park work unit to include supervision of part-time staff in the areas of visitor services, grounds and facility maintenance, public contact, visitor and natural resource protection. Assist Naturalist in the management of natural areas.

### **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES**

Supervision of work unit staff to include training, scheduling and directing of LTE's, summer interns and program personnel; responsible for visitor services such as fee collection and remittance, user registrations for camping, shelters, boat launches, trails, special events and other required permits, and the maintenance of those facilities and others including playgrounds, roads and parking areas to the standards specified by the Dane County Parks; responsible for maintenance of the work unit grounds and facilities to include tree care, mowing, refuse collection and recycling, cleaning buildings, and the repair and improvement of work unit facilities; performs public contact activities through inspections of the campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, playgrounds and other visitor use areas; provides information and assistance to the public for special events, camping, boat launches, trails, the County park system, emergency services, goods and services provided in the area, and other information as needed; maintains all buildings within the work unit to standards specified by the Dane County Parks; this includes cleaning, washing, painting and repairing; performs minor repairs and service to vehicles, equipment and tools and follows preventive maintenance schedule; works under the guidance of the Parks Crewleader to identify and investigate visitor complaints, ordinance violations, boundary disputes, problems and user conflicts (visitor and natural resource protection requires the enforcement and compliance of County park ordinances); maintains accurate records for documenting incidents and completes reports to be used for department, risk management and court purposes; issues warning tickets and may issue citations for park ordinance violations; provides oral and written information in court regarding County ordinance violations; when not assigned to park work unit, will assist naturalist on natural resource management projects, including tree and brush cleaning, working with adult and youth volunteers, wildflower seed collection and processing, herbicide work, weeding prairie restorations, and conducting controlled burns; performs other restoration work on natural areas such as springs, wetlands, reforestation, shoreline and habitat restoration projects. Performs educational programs in natural area management and cultural resources.

(OVER)

Park Ranger (continued)

## **EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

Education and Experience: High school diploma, plus either two years of experience in park operations in park maintenance with some enforcement preferred or a two year associate degree in recreation resource management or related field.

Knowledges and Abilities: Ability to work in a public setting and project a positive image. Must have good written and oral communication skills. Ability to make decisions and handle stressful situations. Knowledge in the areas of park operations including grounds and building maintenance. Ability to work independently to solve problems and take action to solve those problems. Ability to organize work plans and direct the work of others. Ability to operate and maintain a variety of equipment and tools that includes light and heavy duty vehicles and trailers, skid-steer and larger loaders, large driving mowers and various hand and power tools, including chainsaws. Must be able to perform heavy labor such as moving picnic tables and grills, construction activities and forestry related work in rough and uneven terrain. General knowledge of trees, shrubs, and flowers of Wisconsin, some experience managing natural areas. Some knowledge of controlled burning and natural areas for maintenance management.

Special Requirements: Must obtain a valid Wisconsin Commercial Driver's License prior to completion of probation. Position will require a background investigation.