

ZOOKEEPER

NATURE OF WORK

This is responsible manual and semi-skilled work feeding and caring for animals at the zoo as well as maintaining equipment and maintenance throughout the zoo. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Zoo Superintendent. The employee is expected to give guidance and training to seasonal employees.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (may not include all duties performed.)

Plans, organizes, coordinates, schedules and assigns work to seasonal employees.

Attends to basic needs of exotic animals.

Prepares food for exotic animals; feeds animals; hauls hay and other food; cleans and maintains pens and cages; notes condition of animals and reports any problems.

Conducts tours of the zoo for students and other groups.

Purchases animal food and supplies.

Maintains grounds, removes snow and ice, and makes minor repairs to facilities.

Assures all buildings are locked and secured at close of day.

Ensures the equipment is in proper working order; performs preventative maintenance as needed.

Maintains records and prepares reports on work completed; maintains inventory and orders supplies and materials as needed.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

REQUIREMENTS OF WORK

Knowledge of methods, practices, techniques, materials and equipment related to the care and feeding of exotic animals.

Knowledge of safety standards and precautions pertaining to the use and operation of equipment and working around exotic animals.

Knowledge of food requirements for various exotic animals.

Ability to plan, organize, schedule, coordinate and assign work to seasonal employees.

Ability to prepare and mix food according to established procedures and instructions.

Ability to operate equipment in a safe and effective manner.

Ability to keep records.

Ability to understand and carry out written and verbal instructions.

Ability to establish and maintain working relationships with other employees and general public.

DESIRED MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

A bachelor's degree in animal science or related field is desirable and two years of experience in the care and feeding of exotic animals; or any equivalent combination of training and experience.