

TITLE: CURATOR OF AQUATICS
LEVEL: M-8 \$52,978.00- \$64,622.00
DEPARTMENT: ZOO

FUNCTION: Supervise and/or perform work of a professional nature involving the development, implementation and supervision of the Zoo's Collection Management Policy and resulting Collection Plan. Oversees technical aspects of animal care and exhibits within the Aquatics Center. Responsible for the safe operation, maintenance, repair and monitoring of life support and mechanical components and systems. Life Support Systems equipment supports all Living Collections areas, including Aquatic Environment Center marine and freshwater exhibits, marine mammals, reptiles, birds and all other site exhibit water features. This work involves supervising and/or conducting water tests and analysis, preventive maintenance, system design and installation. The specialist will supervise and work alongside Animal Care Staff communicating pertinent information relating to the life support systems.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the supervision of the Director of Zoological services.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Supervises staff as designated by the Director. Supervises Animal care staff along with and in the absence of the Curator.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Oversees and may perform repairs on all life support systems as deemed necessary to maintain facility operations.

Assists in the design and installation of new filtration systems. Maintains proper water quality using sanitizers, ozone and other chemicals. Maintains water chemistry, including salinity, PH levels and other parameters. Maintains proper water filtration for turbidity/clarity.

Responsible for maintaining accurate records related to all life support systems and water quality.

Assists in maintaining clean work environments. Assists in other animal care areas as assigned. Assists in ordering and stocking of all necessary chemicals, equipment and supplies. Maintains appropriate communications with Animal Care Supervisors and staff as to water and pool conditions.

Performs various troubleshooting techniques related to system problems and/or malfunctions, and responds to emergencies.

Will assist in the recapture of escaped animals as necessary and is required to be trained and have familiarity with all firearms housed at the zoo.

Participate in education programs offered to the public. Topics may include wildlife natural history, conservation, and animal welfare. This may include on-site, off-site and after-hours educational programs provided by the Zoo to the general public and providing guided Zoo tours.

May represent the Zoo at professional conferences and meetings, and assist the Director of Zoological Services in fundraising and public relations initiatives including cultivation meetings.

May attend Zoo-related social events and assist with Zoo meetings and events.

Works weekends as designated by the Director of Zoological Services

The above covers the most significant responsibilities of this position. It does not, however, exclude other occasional duties, the inclusion of which would be in conformity with the level of this position.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education & Experience: Four years' paid full-time, or part-time equivalent, experience in water treatment, mechanical maintenance or laboratory work; or a degree from an accredited college in Biology or other natural science, plus two years' experience in the mentioned areas of work. Experience with salt and fresh water systems. Experience with USDA marine mammal standards related to water quality; or any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Necessary Knowledge, Skills & Abilities: Knowledge and understanding of water chemistry and water quality parameters, analysis, filtration systems, etc. Good working knowledge of hydraulic/pumping, automated control and filtration/disinfection systems, as well as knowledge of electricity, interpreting values on machinery and gauges. Working knowledge of water filtration systems.

Proven troubleshooting and problem solving skills. Must be computer literate.

Ability to work on one's feet for extensive periods of time, in adverse conditions (e.g. cramped spaces and wet environment). Must be fully capable of reading technical drawings, technical specifications and written repair/maintenance procedures with minimum supervision. Ability to maintain effective working relationships and function in a team environment with limited supervision.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Possession of a valid Massachusetts driver's license and good driving record. Must have a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check, mandatory by MGL Chapter 6 Sec. 172C.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS: The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of the job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee

frequently is required to stand and talk or hear. The employee is frequently required to walk; sit; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; and taste or smell.

The employee must be able to safely lift and/or move up to 80 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee usually works in outside weather conditions. The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions. The employee may work in high, precarious places and be exposed to fumes or airborne particles, risk of electrical shock, and vibration. The employee may be exposed to toxic or caustic chemicals. . The operation of equipment or handling of chemicals requires the exercise of caution.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderately loud.

SELECTION GUIDELINES: Formal application; rating of education and experience; oral interview and reference check; job-related tests may be required.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.