



## Senior Horticulturist - Garden

The mission of the Houston Botanic Garden is to enrich life through discovery, education, and conservation of plants and the natural environment. HBG is a recently completed botanic garden that strives to inspire all people to love plants and be good stewards of the natural world. The gardens include a global garden with arid, sub-tropical, and tropical plants; a culinary garden with permanent and seasonal displays; a family garden centered around a lagoon; a woodland event garden; wetlands; and a coastal prairie on a 132-acre site.

The Houston Botanic Garden is seeking a Senior Horticulturist to be a key team member in the gardens. This position is hands-on, working to maintain the gardens to the highest horticultural standards. This position oversees several assistant horticulturists in the global collection garden, culinary garden, Susan Garver family discovery garden, parking lot/entry gardens, wetlands and coastal prairie gardens. The successful candidate in this role will be an experienced horticulturist in outdoor botanical displays, and with the knowledge and ability to serve as a role model in best horticultural practices. This position reports to the Director of Horticulture.

### Main Job Responsibilities:

- Performs a wide range of landscape/maintenance tasks, including but not limited to soil preparation, planting, staking, mulching, weeding, watering, fertilization, irrigation, pruning, IPM and pesticide application as needed. Orders supplies such as mulch, compost, fertilizer, plants, etc. in a timely manner to keep stock levels at appropriate levels.
- Under the supervision of the Director of Horticulture, coordinates all activities in the gardens assigned to this position.
- Provides training and mentorship to assistant horticulturists, interns, and volunteers.
- Ensures a safe working environment for all staff and visitors.
- Operates technical equipment and is responsible for everyday maintenance of tools, equipment, and materials. Notifies the Director of Horticulture when major repairs are needed; oversees proper use and maintenance of tools and equipment by assigned garden staff.
- Interacts professionally with visitors, volunteers, and staff.
- As assigned, performs tours, gives presentations, and participates in media outreach.
- May perform other duties based on the garden's needs.

### Qualifications and Experience Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Horticulture, Botany, Plant Science or related field is required.

- A minimum of 5 years hands-on, relevant horticulture work experience at a botanic garden, public horticulture or an outstanding private plant collection, working in a team with diverse skills and backgrounds is required.
- Exceptional knowledge of plant material and its cultivation requirements, with an emphasis in herbaceous and woody taxa suitable for the Houston area, both native and exotic, including rare and endangered plants.
- Experienced in landscape maintenance techniques, including minor irrigation repair, herbicide and pesticide uses and applications. Understands the importance of soil health in plant care.
- Knowledge of plant taxonomy and ethnobotany.
- Ability to communicate through formal training as well as by working side by side with staff and volunteers.
- Self-motivated, organized, attentive to details, and manages time effectively without close supervision.
- Basic knowledge of office equipment and computer applications (text editors and spreadsheets).

This position requires physical work; frequent standing, bending, kneeling, stooping, crouching, reaching, carrying, lifting, pushing, or pulling of objects up to 80 pounds.

Must be able to work outdoors year round under a variety of weather conditions.

### Certificates, Licenses, Registrations:

- Must possess a valid US driver's license.
- Must possess a Texas pesticide applicator's license or be willing to obtain one within 6 months from hire.
- ISA certified arborist is preferred.

### Schedule and Salary:

- Compensation commensurate with experience
- Full-time, non-exempt position
- Available on weekends and holidays as needed

**Benefits:** Medical, dental, and vision insurance, retirement savings match, short term disability, long term disability, and life insurance available.

**Application Procedure:** Interested candidates should send a cover letter, resume and three references to [hr@hbg.org](mailto:hr@hbg.org). We will contact those candidates who most closely match our requirements. Employment is subject to passing a background check.

**Thank you for your interest!**