

Water Resources & Irrigation Manager

Walkabout Outdoor is a NE Minneapolis based landscape and garden design-build firm that creates diverse and beautiful landscapes that enliven local ecology and strengthen people's connection to their environment and surrounding community. Our ecologically-informed design, installation and care of naturalistic landscapes and prairie-style gardens is distinguished by our passionate team who creates and executes spectacular art that intrinsically supports our wider community's collective interests.

Job Description:

We seek an experienced Irrigation Technician with installation experience who is interested in utilizing and expanding their knowledge and skills to better manage water resources in high-end residential and commercial landscaping and gardening. The Water Resources & Irrigation Manager will work in conjunction with and help inform our design team in the creation of landscape and garden design that minimizes and effectively utilizes water resources while harmonizing with the natural landscape. The ideal candidate desires to see the evolution of the landscaping industry towards environmentally sensitive design and installation, and is able to contribute expertise towards this objective in irrigation design, installation and maintenance. This role includes but is not limited to collaboration and interdependence in design, installation and maintenance to include land grading techniques for water retention, infiltration and drainage, an understanding of soil compositions and garden bed preparation, and horticultural expertise in assessing the water needs of plant communities and garden environments. The Water Resources & Irrigation Manager will also contribute to business operations and development specifically growing our capacity for irrigation installation and management including sales, estimating, scheduling, inventory management, field operations management, vehicle maintenance scheduling, client care, leadership development, and career advancement through industry involvement and research in innovation. This is a developing role and candidates must thrive in a work environment that demands the creation and implementation of structure and process. Versatile, curious and adaptable individuals passionate to pursue innovation and implement change in green industry resources management are encouraged to apply.

Please email letter of interest, resume and professional references to: hello@walkaboutoutdoor.com

Field Expectations:

- 60/40 split between irrigation and landscaping to begin, moving towards total involvement in irrigation as our capacity grows
- Maintain and service revolving irrigation contracts including start-up, winterization, troubleshooting, repair, and monitoring
- Layout Irrigation installations, assemble and install valve manifolds, connect low-voltage wiring, install and calibrate various types of sprinkler heads, and program irrigation controllers
- Train and Direct Crew members as necessary
- Can safely operate and maintain a pipe-puller, trencher, compressor and other necessary power equipment
- Has experience with low-voltage electric, or possesses a low-voltage license
- Can operate cable locator and electrical meter

- Professional in customer service and will train the customer in the operation of their irrigation system
- Understand or interested in expanding knowledge of grading, topography, and water retention and drainage techniques
- Knowledge of horticulture, soil compositions and garden environments and how they utilize & distribute water
- Maintains high-quality performance through extended periods of physical labor in various climate conditions without overexertion as the criteria of this job require
- May perform occasional emergency repair off-hours
- Creates and updates a field services vehicle maintenance schedule. Proactively schedules and follows up on company vehicle service

Administrative Expectations:

- Help purchase, build out and maintain a fully-equipped company vehicle with industry leading irrigation tools, equipment and technology
- Manage budget and strategize department growth based on industry trends, expertise and financial management. Can read, analyze or is interested in learning Profit & Loss and other financial reports pertaining to business performance and development
- Administratively manages irrigation installations through collaboration in design and installation planning, tracks labor and materials daily for quality control and budget monitoring, produces progress reports
- Is committed to continually improving resource management through project management
- Creates and implements procedures for effective and organized management of installation crew, materials and equipment.
- Attends and contributes to bi-weekly management meetings and project reviews.
- Drives new customer relationships and sells products and services
- Implements new technology successfully
- Excellent organizational skills, with a demonstrated ability to organize, plan and prioritize multiple projects and deadlines with good attention to detail.
- Ability to work autonomously

Qualifications:

- Minimum 2 years of Irrigation Technician or Installation experience or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides evidence for required knowledge, skills and abilities
- Ability to read landscape design plans and contribute feedback for improved water resource management
- Excited to grow their knowledge and skill towards increased conscientiousness of water management
- Valid driver's license with a clean driving record, ability to operate a truck & trailer, skid, manual transmissions preferred
- Intelligent work ethic, versatile, professional, proactive and independent
- Professional speech and appearance towards all staff and clientele

- Eagerness to learn and expand expertise is highly valued
- Ability to work overtime as required

Career Benefits:

- \$25-32/hr DOE with potential for salaried pay
- Benefits include paid-time off, health insurance, 401k, continuing education stipend, outdoor apparel, rare & native plants, drinks & snacks, and staff outings
- Personal work vehicle
- Individual schedule management outside installation projects including option for 4 day work week and/or overtime
- Paid training, potential for industry and trade association training and involvement, and education allowance for career advancement
- Support and training for industry irrigation certifications, including CIT and CLIA
- Winter work available for candidates with fleet maintenance skills and expertise, gas tool maintenance experience, or snow removal