

STATE OF DELAWARE
ANIMAL KEEPER – BRANDYWINE ZOO
DNREC – Division of Parks and Recreation

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Job Title: Animal Keeper
Department: DNREC
Division: Division of Parks and Recreation
Class Codes: MGAH01
BP #s: 69913, 69914, 69915

JOB DESCRIPTION: The animal keeper position involves all aspects of maintaining the Brandywine Zoo and its animals including the animal exhibits, grounds and facilities.

JOB SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS: Must be able to follow directions, be extremely agile, consistently alert to the behavior of the animals, maintain awareness regarding the potential dangers that exist during interaction with the animals and perform all aspects of zoo maintenance.

JOB CLASSIFICATION: This job is classified as “moderate” as it requires exerting up to 50 pounds of force frequently to perform the various animal keeper functions involved in maintaining the zoo facilities and animal exhibits throughout the Brandywine Zoo.

PHYSICAL JOB REQUIREMENTS:

To receive consideration for this position all Animal Keepers for DNREC’s Division of Parks and Recreation must be able to perform the following essential physical job functions daily:

- The physical ability to stand and or walk frequently.
- The physical ability to drive vehicles including cargo and minivans as well as smaller work assist vehicles such as the “Mule.”
- The physical ability to balance, climb, bend/stoop, squat, push/pull, crouch, crawl, kneel and work above the shoulders occasionally to frequently in order to maintain the animal exhibits and the facilities at the Zoo.
- The physical ability to frequently climb on a ladder or physical barrier such as steep, rocky animal exhibits to heights in excess of 15’ to 25’.
- The physical ability to use both hands for frequently grasping (for example: maintenance tasks, cleaning tasks, feeding tasks, etc.)

- The physical ability to frequently lift up to 50 pounds of weight. This weight will be constituted by the following items, but not limited to them: hay, bags and cartons of animal food, tools, empty and occupied animal cages, etc.
- The physical ability to frequently push/pull various items, such as bales of hay, bags and cartons of animal food, tools, empty and occupied animal cages, loaded wheeled carts weighing between 10 and 50 pounds distances of up to 600’.
- The physical ability to frequently operate different types of equipment including, but not limited to, dump trucks, cargo and minivans, motorized work assist vehicles, weed whackers, blowers, hedge trimmers, string trimmers, etc.
- The physical ability to work at heights and on uneven and multiple surface types (rock, mulch, dirt, concrete, hilly, wet and slippery) continuously.
- The physical ability to tolerate dust, fumes, gases and chemicals in the performance of the animal keeper job duties.
- The physical ability to work outdoors in all temperatures and weather conditions.
- The physical ability to tolerate required personal protective equipment such as safety glasses, ear protection, gloves, safety belts and safety shoes on a continuous basis.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the above physical requirements of the Animal Keeper for the Division of Parks and Recreation for DNREC. I have also been given the opportunity to ask any questions I may have regarding the physical demands required of this position. I further understand that if I am offered this position, I will be required to take a functional capabilities evaluation (FCE) to determine if I can safely perform the required tasks without risk to myself or others.

PRINTED NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE: _____

01/07/08 Revised