

TREE TRIMMER

DEFINITION

To perform a variety of routine tree care, maintenance and removal; operate and maintain tree trimming equipment and tools; and to perform related work as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the full journey level class in the Tree Trimmer series and has the ability to perform the full range of duties assigned with only occasional instruction or assistance as unique situations arise. This class is distinguished from the Senior Tree Trimmer in that the latter performs advanced journey level work and/or provides technical and functional guidance over assigned staff.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from an assigned supervisor.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS – Functions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Maintain trees within city areas; plant, fertilize, spray, water and prune trees; trim or remove excess, dead or diseased limbs or branches; tops, braces and cables ornamental and shade trees; prunes and stakes young trees.

Assist in picking up trimmings and loading them into a chipping machine or truck; operates hydraulic boom; cleans and maintains equipment.

Inspect trees for insect and disease infestation and perform pest control operation or other simple tree surgery work, such as treating cut surfaces to protect tree from insects and tree diseases; inject trees and apply chemicals.

Climb trees using hooks, ropes, cables and ladders.

Check, operate and assist in maintaining related equipment and tools such as saws, equipment; maintain and perform simple repairs of tree trimming tools and equipment cleans ground, after tree trimming or removal performs related as required

Remove tree stumps and cuts trees and branches

Operate hydraulic boom.

Respond to emergency situations in off-hours as required.

Keep work related records using a computer.

Operate City trucks and equipment with attachments skillfully and safely.

Respond to questions or complaints from the public.

Build and maintain positive working relationships with co-workers, other City employees and the public using principles of good customer services.

Perform other related duties as assigned.

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

#### Knowledge of:

Materials, equipment and methods used in the planting, cultivating, care, trimming and removal of trees.

Methods and techniques used in planning cultivating, care, trimming and removal of trees.

Techniques of bracing and cabling trees.

Safety precautions in tree trimming work.

Growing habits and common disease of trees.

Methods of tree treatments.

Pertinent rules, laws, and policies related to area of assignment.

Safe work methods and safety regulations pertaining to tree trimming work, including the use of personal protective equipment.

Practices and procedures of traffic control and flagging.

Safe work methods and safety regulations pertaining to the work, including the use of personal protective equipment.

Principles and practices of conflict resolution.

Computer equipment and software applications related to assignment.

English usage, spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

Ability to:

Use and operate tools and equipment related to assignment, including personal protective equipment.

Keep work related records and prepare reports using a computer.

Work effectively at remote locations without direct supervision.

Operate City vehicles observing legal and defensive driving practices.

Follow oral instruction; read, interpret, follow and explain written instructions, construction sketches and equipment manuals.

Use initiative and sound independent judgment within established guidelines.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Work overtime and off-hours shifts as needed.

In the absence of a supervisor, assume responsibilities as needed.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Work with various cultural and ethnic groups in a tactful and effective manner.

Experience and Training

Any combination of experience and training that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Experience:

Two years of responsible experience involving trimming, cultivating or caring for ornamental and shade trees.

Training:

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade.

License or Certificate

Possession of a valid Class “B” California driver’s license.

Possession of a valid Class “A” California driver’s license is desirable.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

On a continuous basis physically climb trees and/or work at a considerable height above the ground; to use manual dexterity to operate and handle hand tools gears and various machinery; walk and work on uneven surfaces; to work around dirt, dust and loud noises; to manually perform digging, chopping and sawing motions; and lift or carry weight of 100 pounds or less with assistance; work in a bucket up to 40 feet in the air; to communicate with co-workers using a two-way radio and hand signals.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Work is performed outdoors with exposure to a variety of weather conditions; fieldwork requires working occasionally at unprotected heights around moving tools; some work is required with exposure to moderate to heavy traffic noise levels. Frequent exposure to high noise level when working with tree trimming equipment. Periodic exposure of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides for plant and pest control is necessary in the course of work.

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