

TREE TRIMMER II

Job Summary:

Under supervision, performs a variety of semi-skilled and skilled tree maintenance duties including trimming and pruning trees and planting, transplanting and staking trees; operates and maintains equipment such as pole loppers and pole saws; trims or prunes trees from the ground, ladder or aerial equipment and with the aid of climbers, ropes and saddle, and belts; performs tree surgery.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

This is the journey level class in the Tree Trimmer Job Series that requires the incumbent to work under general supervision and within the framework of established procedures. Incumbents are expected to perform a full range of duties with only occasional instruction or assistance. Positions at this level frequently work outside the immediate proximity of a supervisor. Work normally is reviewed only on completion and for overall results.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

(These functions are representative and may not be present in all positions in the class. Management reserves the right to add, modify, change or rescind related duties and work assignments.)

1. Trims, prunes and maintains street and park trees, working from the ground, ladders or aerial equipment, with the aid of climbers, ropes and saddle, and belts.
2. Loads, transports and unloads trees, equipment and supplies from vehicles.
3. Operates a chipper machine for the disposal of debris; sweeps work area to keep free from debris; also operates stump grinder and other power equipment.
4. Diverts traffic flow to gain access to parkways by applying principles in the Work Area Traffic Control Manual.
5. Checks location of power lines, pedestrians, equipment and traffic before cutting limbs to protect from falling debris; removes weeds from around the tree area.
6. Digs holes using power auger to prepare area for tree planting.
7. Plants, transplants and stakes trees and backfills with soil; cleans area after planting.
8. Performs minor maintenance on power equipment, such as lubricating and adding oil and water.
9. Maintains logs on mileage, equipment usage and types of tree serviced.
10. Sharpens hand tools using a grinding stone or hand file.
11. Waters and fertilizes trees using water truck.
12. Performs tree surgery.
13. Operates a motor vehicle and tows equipment that requires a Class A driver's license.
14. Performs related duties as required.

Qualification Guidelines

A typical way to obtain the requisite qualifications to perform the duties of this class is as follows:

Education and Experience:

Completion of high school or GED which ensures the ability to read and write at a level necessary for successful job performance and two (2) years of full-time increasingly responsible experience performing tree trimming. Related vocational or college course work is desirable.

Knowledge of:

- Basic methods, techniques and tools used in tree maintenance work.
- Applicable sections of the California Vehicle Code and Work Area Traffic Control Manual.
- Appropriate health and safety practices and procedures.
- Characteristics of ornamental and shade trees common to the area.
- Basic record-keeping techniques.
- Methods used in the trimming, spraying, climbing, planting, removal and surgery of trees.
- Knowledge of emergency tree removal or trimming.

Skill and Ability to:

- Perform semi-skilled and skilled tree maintenance duties including light and heavy trimming pursuant to International Society of Arboriculture standards.
- Operate a variety of tree maintenance tools and equipment safely and efficiently.
- Maintain tools, equipment and vehicles in clean and proper working condition.
- Identify and maintain ornamental and shade trees common to the area.
- Work from ladders, aerial equipment and in high places.
- Observe safety practices and procedures and set up proper cones, barricades and other safety protection.
- Observe legal, defensive and safe driving practices.
- Maintain routine records.
- Complete work with many interruptions.
- Lift objects weighting up to 75 pounds.
- Perform heavy manual labor.
- Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.
- Respond to emergencies to perform tree maintenance, trimming or removal.

License or Certificate:

Possession of a valid California Class A driver's license. Employees in this classification will be enrolled in the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Government Employer Pull Notice Program, which confirms possession of a valid driver's license and reflects driving record, and the Department of Transportation (DOT) Drug Testing Program. Ability to acquire an International Society of Arboriculture Tree Worker Certificate is required within two years of appointment.

Special Requirements:

Ability to pass a physical examination for strenuous/arduous labor.

Physical Requirements and Working Conditions:

Employee accommodations for physical disabilities will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Positions in this class normally:

- Require mobility to stand, stoop, reach, twist and bend.
- Require mobility of arms to reach above shoulder level and dexterity of hands to grasp and manipulate small objects.
- Require the ability to stand for long periods and walk long distances.
- Require mental alertness to drive safely and operate equipment safely.
- Require the ability to drive equipment which requires a Class A driver's license.

- Perform work which involves the frequent lifting, pushing and/or pulling of objects which weight approximately 75 pounds and may occasionally weigh up to 100 pounds.
- May be required to work in inclement weather without effective protection from sun, cold and rain.
- May be required to respond to tree-related emergencies, including removal of trees or branches in the public right-of-way, during normal hours or on emergency call back.
- May be required to work with harsh and toxic substances.
- May be required to wear a uniform, safety shoes, protective apparel including goggles, face protectors, aprons and oxygen breathing apparatus.
- May be required to work within enclosed spaces or at heights above ground level.
- May be required to work around loud noise.
- May be required to work around moving mechanical parts.
- May be required to work around electrical currents.
- May be required to work overtime after regular work hours, including weekends.