

CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

SENIOR TREE TRIMMER

Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are not intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Under direction, leads, oversees and participates in a variety of skilled and semi-skilled labor duties in the maintenance and care of City-owned trees; oversees assigned tree and landscaping projects; plants, inspects, prunes, trims and removes trees.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the advanced journey-level class in the Tree Trimmer series. Positions at this level are distinguished from other classes within the series by the level of responsibility assumed and the complexity of duties assigned including performing lead supervisory activities. Employees at this level are required to be fully trained in all procedures related to assigned area of responsibility.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES

The following duties are typical for this classification. Incumbents may not perform all of the listed duties and/or may be required to perform additional or different duties from those set forth below to address business needs and changing business practices.

1. Provide lead supervision and training to assigned staff responsible for the maintenance and care of City trees for public safety by performing a variety of tree care, tree pruning and tree removal functions; prune, trim and remove trees; inspect trees to ensure that public views of traffic signals, signs or intersections are not blocked; and plant and care for City trees.
2. Participate and assist in the operations and daily data entry of the City's tree inventory.
3. Participate in the development and implementation of goals and procedures for tree maintenance and operations.
4. Train assigned staff in the methods and techniques of tree trimming operations, maintenance, and service to the public.
5. Assign responsibilities to crewmembers in the field.
6. Estimate time, materials, and equipment required for jobs assigned; utilize specialized software to inventory and schedule use of tree trimming equipment; requisition materials as required.
7. Participate in the installation and care of trees and other landscape materials including irrigation systems.
8. Use climbing saddle, rope and harness to access and move safely in trees; trim dead, damaged or problematic branches.
9. Lead and participate in the care and maintenance of tree trimming materials, supplies and equipment.
10. Oversee notification of residents regarding tree and landscape projects in their neighborhood; respond to customer service complaints.

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11. Operate a variety of maintenance equipment, including a dump truck, skid steer loader, root-pruner/trencher, water tank truck, aerial truck, brush chipper, stump grinder, chain saws, and other related equipment.
12. Utilize climbing gear or aerial lift truck to rescue individuals caught or injured in trees.
13. Maintain manual and computerized records related to tree maintenance activities; develop and complete work orders.
14. Plan, oversee and participate in traffic control to ensure the safety of workers and the general public.
15. Ensure adherence to current safe work practices and procedures related to tree and landscape maintenance activities including electrical hazard awareness; develop and present safety meetings.
16. Respond to after-hours, standby and weekend shifts and emergency callouts as directed.
17. Perform related duties as required/assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

The following generally describes the knowledge and ability required to enter the job and/or be learned within a short period of time in order to successfully perform the assigned duties.

Knowledge of:

Principles of lead supervision and training.

Safe work practices.

Uses and purposes of general construction tools and equipment used in the area of work assigned.

Preventative maintenance techniques and procedures.

Tools and equipment used in tree and landscape maintenance.

Advanced safety procedures including electrical hazard awareness and aerial rescue.

Geography and street layout of City and surrounding area.

Office procedures, methods, and equipment including computers and applicable software applications.

Practices, methods, and materials used in planting, pruning and removing trees.

Urban forestry principles and practices including tree identification.

Common tree diseases and pests and their treatment.

Traffic control including the placement of cones and warning signs.

Occupational hazards and standard safety practices including tree rescue procedures.

Hazardous chemicals, herbicides and fertilizers.

Basic record keeping principles and practices.

Ability to:

Lead and train staff in the area of work assigned.

Assign tasks to lower level staff.

Perform the most complex activities related to tree and landscape maintenance.

Interpret, explain, and enforce departmental and City policies and procedures.

Solve customer complaints and interact effectively with the public and staff.

Trim, prune and remove all types and sizes of City trees utilizing rope and saddle, aerial truck vehicle and from the ground.

Use and operate hand tools, mechanical equipment, and power tools and equipment.

Read and interpret basic maps and blueprints.

Operate heavy equipment effectively and safely.

Perform heavy manual labor and a variety of manual tasks for extended periods of time in

unfavorable weather conditions.

Explain tree and landscape maintenance procedures to customers.

Operate office equipment including computers and supporting software.

Adapt to changing technologies and learn functionality of new equipment and systems.

Identify safety hazards and train crews in safety procedures.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Apply pesticides in a safe and effective manner.

Identify and treat common tree diseases.

Work independently in the absence of supervision.

Understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Keep accurate records of daily activity.

Maintain physical condition appropriate to the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities.

Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for successful job performance.

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

Education and Experience Guidelines - *Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:*

Education/Training:

Equivalent to completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by specialized training in tree and landscape care and maintenance.

Experience:

Four years of increasingly responsible experience in maintaining, trimming, and caring for trees, landscape, and related equipment, including tree climbing experience are required. Supervisory/lead experience is desired.

License or Certificate:

Possession of, or ability to obtain within one year, certification as a Certified Arborist from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).

Possession of, or ability to obtain within six months, Electrical Hazard Awareness Procedures and CPR/First Aid/AED certifications.

Possession of, and ability to maintain, a valid Class A driver license including trailer and tank endorsements.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

The conditions herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential job functions.

Environment: Construction site and office environment; travel from site to site; work with and around heavy construction equipment and pesticides; work at heights on aerial equipment (including ropes/saddles) and ladders; work on slippery and uneven surfaces; work around traffic; exposure to noise, dust, heat and inclement weather conditions.

Physical: Sufficient physical ability to perform moderate to heavy lifting; reaching, bending, stooping, kneeling, and crawling; walking and standing for prolonged periods of time (including climbing and the ability to perform aerial rescue under heavy load), operating motorized equipment and vehicles.

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Vision: See in the normal visual range with or without correction; vision sufficient to read computer screens and printed documents to operate equipment, and to perform other duties as assigned.

Hearing: Hear in the normal audio range with or without correction.

Established: June 2008

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