

CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

TREE TRIMMER I/II

*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 immediate supervision (Tree Trimmer I) or general supervision (Tree Trimmer II), maintains City-owned trees for public safety; plants, prunes, trims, removes and cares for City trees; inspects trees to ensure that public views of street traffic signals, signs or intersections are not blocked.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Tree Trimmer I – This is the entry-level class in the Tree Trimmer series. Incumbents in this classification receive on-the-job training, specific day-to-day direction and are closely supervised. Positions at this level are not expected to function with the same amount of knowledge or skill as positions allocated to the Tree Trimmer II level and exercise less independent discretion and judgment in matters related to work procedures and methods. Advancement to the “II” level is based on meeting minimum qualifications and satisfactory job performance.

Tree Trimmer II - This is the journey-level class in the Tree Trimmer series. Employees within this class are distinguished from the Tree Trimmer I by the performance of the full range of duties. Employees at this level receive only occasional instruction or assistance as new or unusual situations arise, and are fully aware of the operating procedures and policies of the work unit.

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. Maintain City trees for public safety by performing tree pruning and tree removal functions; remove dead and damaged limbs and trees.
2. Perform brush chipping, root pruning and stump grinding.
3. Use climbing saddle, rope and harness to access and move safely in trees; inspect and maintain climbing equipment.
4. Operate and maintain tree-trimming equipment including trucks, aerial lift truck, chain saws, pole pruner, root pruner, stump grinder, and brush chipper.
5. Perform traffic control to ensure safety of cars, pedestrians and tree crew in traffic areas.
6. Perform roadside clean-up of trash and weeds.
7. Plant, water, fertilize and care for City trees.
8. Maintain the City tree nursery.
9. Respond to emergency calls regarding fallen trees or limbs.
10. Assist maintenance workers with chipping of tree limbs and brush; serve as a lead in the absence of the Senior Tree Trimmer.
11. Inspect trees for potential faults, insects, and diseases.

12. Perform related duties as required.

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:

Practices, methods, and materials used in planting, pruning and removing trees.
Tools, material and equipment needed to maintain City trees.
Forestry principles and practices including tree identification.
Common tree diseases and pests and their treatment.
Traffic control including placement of cones and warning signs.
Aerial and climbing rescue practices and safety procedures.
Safe use of hazardous chemicals, herbicides and fertilizers.
Basic record keeping principles and practices.
Basic office procedures, methods, and equipment including computers and applicable software applications.

Ability to:

Operate a variety of hand tools and power equipment used in caring for City trees.
Perform a variety of manual tasks for extended periods of time in unfavorable weather conditions.
Perform heavy manual labor.
Trim, prune and remove all types and sizes of City trees utilizing rope and saddle, aerial truck vehicle and from the ground.
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 activities.
Operate office equipment including computers and supporting software.
Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
Be available to work nights, weekends, stand-by and emergency call-ins.
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. Specialized training in tree maintenance or a related field is desirable.

Experience:

Tree Trimmer I: Six months of landscape or tree maintenance, including tree climbing experience are desirable.

Tree Trimmer II: Two years of increasingly responsible tree maintenance, including tree climbing experience are required.

License or Certificate:

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid Class A driver license within six months of employment.

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

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Possession of certification as a Tree Worker and/or a Certified Arborist from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is desirable.

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, standing and climbing for prolonged periods of time; operating motorized equipment and vehicles.

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.

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Johnson & Associates

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