

LEAD TREE WORKER

DEFINITION

To perform all aspects of tree work of trees within the City right of ways; to provide instruction and lead supervision of tree crew in the performance of daily assignments; and to perform related duties and responsibilities as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from the Parks and Trees Supervisor.

Exercises supervision over parks maintenance technicians, assigned community service workers and temporary personnel.

EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS - *Essential functions may include, but are not limited to, the following:*

Provides leadership and participates in the performance of tree care and maintenance in City parks, along streets, and all other City right of ways.

Coordinates, supervises and evaluates the performance of assigned maintenance technicians, community service workers and temporary personnel.

Provides instruction and technical training to crew members regarding proper work methods and the safe operation of equipment and tools.

Uses climbing saddle, rope and harness to access and move safely in trees; trim dead, damaged or problematic branches.

Removes and trims hazardous trees.

Plans, oversees and participates in traffic control to ensure the safety of workers and the general public.

Responds to after-hours, standby and weekend shifts and emergency callouts as directed.

Reviews the work of subordinates for compliance with all applicable policies and procedures, and standards of quality and safety.

Participates in tree work, including but not limited to installing and maintaining trees and other landscape materials, removing trees and other landscape materials as necessary, pruning and trimming trees and shrubs, etc.

Diagnoses plant and tree diseases and determines proper corrective action; evaluates tree damage and prepares cost estimates for replacement.

Mixes and applies pesticides and herbicides for pest, weed and disease control.

Operates and supervises the operation of special equipment, including but not limited to aerial lift truck, other trucks, loaders, backhoes, tractors, fork lift, mowers, rototiller, weed trimmers, leaf blowers, power washer, stump grinder, motors, pumps, irrigation systems, brush chippers, air compressor, and various other hand and power tools.

Ensures the proper maintenance of assigned vehicles, equipment and tools.

Maintains manual and computerized records related to tree maintenance activities; develop and complete work orders.

Prepares a variety of logs, records and reports related to assigned functions including updating the tree inventory.

Completes special projects as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

City and departmental policies, procedures and standards related to tree care.

Proper grounds maintenance and gardening methods, procedures and techniques.

Species, characteristics and maintenance needs of trees.

Safe work practices associated with tree trimming operations.

Tree diseases and methods of treatment.

Safe and proper use of controlled chemicals for grounds / tree maintenance work.

Safe use and maintenance of tree related tools and equipment.

Use of ropes, knots, and other acceptable applications in tree care

Principles of training, leadership and supervision.

Basic methods of record-keeping and report preparation.

Ability to:

Learn, understand, interpret and apply department and City policies, procedures and standards affecting department operations.

Ensure adherence to current safe work practices and procedures related to tree and

landscape maintenance activities; develop and present safety meetings.

Understands and follows oral and written instructions independently.

Supervises and evaluates the work of others.

Plans, organizes and completes work tasks and projects within established time frames.

Operates and maintains department vehicles, equipment and tools with skill and in a safe manner.

Quickly diagnose maintenance problems and implement corrective action.

Performs required mathematical computations with accuracy.

Communicates clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Prepares routine records and reports.

Establishes and maintains effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Meets the physical requirements necessary to safely perform assigned duties.

Experience:

Three years of increasingly responsible experience in arboriculture. Lead or supervisory experience is desirable.

Education:

High school diploma or GED equivalent.

Substitution:

Completion of college-level courses in forestry, horticulture, arboriculture or skilled crafts may be substituted for up to one year of the required experience.

Additional Requirements:

Possession of a valid California Class A driver's license.

Within one year of appointment, possession and continually maintain a Qualified Applicator's Certificate as issued by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, with categories (B) Landscape Maintenance, and (C) Right-of-Ways.

Within one year of appointment, possession and continually maintain a Certified Arborist Certificate issued by the International Society of Arboriculture.

Possession of a valid CPR and First Aid certificate.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed both indoors and outdoors. Incumbent may be exposed to traffic and construction hazards, machinery hazards, herbicides/pesticides, electrical currents, adverse weather conditions, temperature and noise extremes, wetness, humidity, heights, fumes, dusts, dirt, odors, solvents, grease/oil, toxic or caustic chemicals, vibration.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Requires the mobility to perform building and grounds maintenance duties. Requires the ability to occasionally sit and frequently walk, stand, climb, balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl and reach while performing maintenance work; lift and/or move up to 50 pounds frequently and up to 100 pounds occasionally; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools and controls. Must be able to maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for making observations, communicating with others, reading and writing, and operating field equipment. Must be able to use a telephone to communicate verbally.

This class specification lists the major duties and requirements of the job and is not all-inclusive. Incumbents may be expected to perform job-related duties other than those contained in this document.