

ARBORIST II

NATURE OF WORK

This is a crew leader position in the Forestry Section of the Parks and Recreation Department involving all phases of the care and maintenance of City trees.

Work involves responsibility for supervising, assigning and participating in a variety of tasks, often hazardous, including pruning, caring for, felling, spraying, planting and removing City trees; and the operation and maintenance of specialized tree care equipment. Work also includes planning and enforcing proper safeguards for subordinates and the public. An employee in this class is responsible for all record-keeping necessary for the evaluation of subordinate employees and proper administrative reporting of crew activities. Assignments are received verbally or in the form of work orders and carry relatively detailed instructions regarding the work to be performed. The work is inspected in progress and is subject to final review by a technical supervisor for conformance with instructions. Supervision is exercised over subordinate Arborists and lower level employees engaged in tree maintenance work.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Supervises and participates in the planting, transplanting, topping, felling, pruning, spraying, repairing and removing of City trees.

Supervises and participates in the care and operation of mobile aerial devices, edged tools and equipment, ropes and safety equipment, log loaders, winches and tree sprayers.

Performs manual tasks such as clearing brush, planting trees, removing stumps, grindings, and back-filling holes.

Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment; reports malfunctions and repair needs.

Oversees proper implementation of job site traffic control.

Trains new employees in safety practices and all phases of arboriculture; maintains electronic records of work activities, work orders and time sheets; evaluates employees.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of tree care and the methods, techniques and specialized equipment used in the pruning, spraying, planting and removal of trees.

Considerable knowledge of the occupational hazards and safety precautions of the work and ability to train new personnel in safe and effective methods of tree maintenance.

Considerable knowledge of tree and shrub species for identification purposes.

Knowledge of rigging methods.

Knowledge of insects, parasites and diseases that attack trees and of proper control methods.

Ability to perform all phases of arboriculture.

Ability to work with aerial equipment at varying heights and angles.

Ability to operate and maintain specialized tree care equipment, arborist tools and equipment such as chain and hand saws, pole pruners, chipper, augers, ropes, ladders, log loader truck, dump truck and mobile aerial devices.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, subordinates and the general public.

Ability to supervise, assign, direct and evaluate the work of subordinates.

Ability to maintain necessary time sheets, records, etc. as required.

Ability to perform strenuous physical activity, including lifting up to 100 pounds, and to work in adverse weather conditions.

Skill in the use and care of tools and equipment commonly used in tree maintenance.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from high school or equivalent plus two years of experience in tree care activities and the operation of specialized tree care equipment; and six months of experience supervising a work crew; or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

When operating equipment that falls under the Nebraska Commercial Driver's License (CDL) status, the employee is required to possess and maintain the proper license and endorsement.

Successful completion of the City of Lincoln's First Class Arborist examination is a requirement within six months of assignment to this classification.

Possession and maintenance of a valid Nebraska Certified Pesticide Applicator license is a requirement within six months of assignment to this classification.