

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

TITLE: Tree Climber/Maintenance Worker II
SERIES: Building and Grounds Maintenance

GRADE: L07 CODE: 5251
DATE: 06/303
FLSA: Non-Exempt
EEOC: Service/Maintenance

Class Definition

Under general supervision, performs skilled, hazardous tree maintenance work, involving considerable responsibility, complexity, variety, and leadership. This is the full performance level of tree maintenance work. Provides coordination and on-site direction over tree maintenance crew. Inspects for and identifies hazard trees and limbs. Climbs trees and operates aerial lift truck to perform difficult and dangerous tree maintenance work. Removes hazard diseased, dead and unwanted trees and tree limbs from woods, parks, and other areas owned by the Commission. Performs tree maintenance on the ground when tree climbing is not required. May be asked to provide 24 hour on-call service to respond to hazard tree emergencies.

Work is characterized by leading crews, the performance of heavy physical labor, hazardous tasks, exposure to considerable heights, and the operation of aerial lift equipment. The incumbent leads and performs a full range of duties and responsibilities requiring extensive teamwork to coordinate crew duties and functions. Performs other duties as assigned.

Examples of Important Duties

1. Receives work orders. Inspects work sites. Decides best way to handle each tree (e.g., cut from ground, use aerial lift truck, or climb tree). Plans, assigns, and schedules work. Issues and secures tools and equipment. Directs crew to ensure safe and timely completion of work assignments.
2. Leads the work of Tree Climber/Maintenance Workers and related crew members. Reports crew activity and work progress to supervisor. Assists in selection and training of staff. Recommends disciplinary action. May provide limited supervision to crew, including suggesting approval of time cards and leave requests. May evaluate, and counsel staff on performance improvement. May draft various reports (e.g., accidents, injuries, equipment damage) for supervisor.
3. Performs tree work from aerial lift truck. Positions bucket and sets outriggers. Operates hydraulic bucket, chain saws, and ropes to cut down difficult trees (e.g., trees near wires or over buildings), particularly when tree is not safe to climb.
4. Safely climbs trees in accordance with safety requirements (e.g. ANSI), using saddle, ropes, climbing hooks, safety lanyards and other specialized safety equipment.
5. Removes or lowers trees and limbs utilizing ropes, pulleys, lowering devices, and other specialized equipment. Operates chain saw and other specialized equipment in accordance with approved standards to fell and trim unwanted, diseased, hazardous or dead trees from ground level.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

TITLE: Tree Climber/Maintenance Worker II

Page 2 of 3

Examples of Important Duties (cont.)

6. Directs activities of ground crew (e.g. tree climber/maintenance workers, equipment operators, park/general maintenance workers).
7. Clears fallen trees and brush debris from roads, trails, creeks, bike paths, and buildings. Utilizes manual and motorized tools for cleanup and removal.
8. Inspects trees for hazards, safety, and health in accordance with guidelines. Identifies and applies corrective course of action. Mixes and applies soil fertilizers and amendments. Performs soil aeration. Attaches braces and wires to support trees with weak structural systems. Installs and inspects lightening protection, bracing and cabling supports, in accordance to industry standards.
9. Maintains safety compliance: Responsible for inspecting equipment before each climb, ensuring equipment is properly secured and accounted for before leaving work site. Ensures hardhat, ear and eye protection, leg chaps, and other mandated safety gear is worn. Maintains work records, complies with legal reporting requirements. Keeps records of jobs completed, vehicle maintenance, equipment maintenance, accidents, and injuries.
10. Interacts with the general public. Meets with citizens to discuss complaints regarding Commission trees. May lead crew in correcting problem, or recommend appropriate action to supervisor. Determines property lines as necessary.
11. Cleans and maintains tools and equipment. Makes necessary adjustments and repairs. Conducts routine preventive maintenance on assigned equipment (e.g., chain saws, chipping machine). Makes recommendations to supervisor regarding equipment purchasing.
12. Drives truck, often with trailer, to carry crew and equipment to work sites. Provides routine maintenance. Takes vehicles and equipment to garage for major maintenance and repairs.

Important Worker Characteristics

Considerable knowledge of: (1) Commission organization, policies, and procedures; * (2) standards (e.g. OSHA, MOSH, and ANSI) and specialized equipment used in tree trimming and removal; (3) first aid and CPR; * (4) tree maintenance techniques and related safety precaution practices; and (5) local tree species and related diseases.

Skill in operation of: (1) vehicles requiring CDL license; (2) aerial lift truck, chain saw, chipping machine, hand tools, two-way radio, and other tree service equipment; (3) appropriate office equipment, including personal computer with applicable software.

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

TITLE: Tree Climber/Maintenance Worker II

Page 3 of 3

Important Worker Characteristics (cont.)

Ability to: (1) lead a crew to accomplish work objectives; (2) apply a system of procedures and principles to solve practical problems; (3) use simple arithmetic; (4) read routine reports and instructions; (5) write routine reports; (6) lift up to 50 pounds; (7) work consistently at high elevations; (8) communicate effectively; and (9) establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees and the general public.

*Developed primarily after employment in this job class.

Minimum Qualifications

1. High school diploma or GED, and
2. Three years of tree climbing/maintenance experience, or
3. An equivalent combination of education and experience.
4. Possession of a valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with appropriate endorsements at time of employment.
5. Successfully pass a Commission medical examination.

Working Conditions

Primarily works outdoors. Requires exposure to adverse weather conditions, noise, vibration, dust, and hazardous materials while working at considerable heights. Hazardous conditions exist due to exposure to power tools, power lines, wild animals, stinging insects, poison ivy, oak or sumac, and dead and dangerous trees and limbs. May be required to be on on-call 24 hours in the event of an emergency. Work requires constant bending, lifting, and carrying of heavy objects of up to 50 pounds.