

San Diego Community College District

CLASSIFICATION DESCRIPTION

Title: Tree Maintenance Gardener

Unit: Maintenance & Operations

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Job Code: E1316
Original Date: 07/1987
Last Revision: 07/2017
Staff Type: Classified
FLSA status: Non-exempt
Salary Range: 23

DEFINITION

Under the direction of a Facilities Supervisor-Landscape or assigned supervisor or manager, plan and perform a variety of tree maintenance duties, including operating and maintaining specialized tree maintenance equipment; perform other general and varied grounds maintenance and gardening work as required.

EXAMPLE OF DUTIES

1. Trim, prune, and maintain a variety of trees, working from the ground, from ladders, and by climbing trees with the aid of ropes, climbing spikes, safety belts, and supplemental rigging.
2. Top and reshape trees; trim or remove dead, diseased, or unsightly growth; fell or remove sections of trees or entire trees; lower cut branches by slings or lines; cable and bolt trees to cross-support weak limbs.
3. Identify potential tree health hazards and apply treatment to trees having diseased or unhealthy conditions; water and fertilize trees as required.
4. Plan safety, climbing, and equipment needs. Check location of power lines, pedestrians, equipment, and traffic before cutting limbs to protect from falling debris.
5. Operate a variety of climbing and tree-trimming tools and equipment and maintain in good and safe working order.
6. Perform other general and varied grounds maintenance and gardening work as required; operate a variety of hand and power equipment. Service and perform minor repairs to equipment and sprinkler systems.
7. Spray insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides using proper safety gear and equipment. Calculate and formulate proper rates of application of different pesticides and fertilizers; log pesticide usage.
8. Sweep and pick up refuse from walkways, shrub beds, lawns, and parking lots.
9. Assist with coordination of work with outside contractors and other grounds crews.
10. Operate a district vehicle to drive to various work sites.
11. Train and provide work direction to new and hourly employees.
12. Perform related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge:

- Characteristics of common southern California ornamental and shade trees and plants, including growing characteristics as related to pruning and shaping methodologies.
- Health and safety regulations.
- Irrigation system maintenance and repair.
- Materials, equipment, and methods used in trimming, spraying, climbing, and removal of trees.

Pesticide, fertilizers, and watering practices for trees, plants, and lawns.
Plant and insect identification and growth habits of various types of plants.
Rigging and knots used in tree trimming work.
Tools, materials, equipment, and their practical use in grounds keeping.

Skills and Abilities:

Check and recognize defects in tree climbing and trimming equipment.
Climb trees with the aid of ropes, climbing spikes, safety belts, and supplemental rigging.
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.
Operate grounds keeping equipment.
Perform general grounds keeping and routine gardening work.
Perform or quickly learn to perform rigging and tying of various knots used in climbing.
Provide work direction and training to others.
Repair and maintain equipment used in grounds keeping work.
Trim trees according to accepted practices.
Understand and follow oral and written directions.
Use a variety of hand and power tools related to tree maintenance work.
Work at considerable heights above the ground.
Work independently with little direction.

Training and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience equivalent to: sufficient training to demonstrate the knowledge and abilities listed above, including three years of experience involving tree maintenance work.

License:

Valid California driver's license.
Arborist Certification desired.
Qualified Applicators certificate desired

WORKING CONDITIONS

Physical Requirements:

Category I

Environment:

Environment may include less than desirable extremes.