

Job Description

Job Title: Arborist, Maintenance Worker III	Department: Public Works
Date Issue: May 23, 2016	Reports To: Superintendent of Parks & Forestry
Classification: Non – Exempt	Wage: Salary Grade MWIII
Approved S & G: S&G 5/23/16	Salary Range: \$21.00 – \$25.86

Position Summary

Under general supervision, performs skilled work maintaining trees and other vegetation primarily along Sheboygan City streets, parks and other public property. Work may include planting, trimming, removing trees and other vegetation using acceptable industry practices. Ability to operate aerial lift, chippers, boom truck stump grinders, chain saws, and other equipment required. Ability to use rope and saddle preferred. Arborist is required to exercise independent judgment while completing assignments. Employee may direct the activities of seasonal employees performing similar tasks. Employee has frequent contact with the public.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities

1. Prunes, spray/inject plant and removes trees in parks, along city streets, or on other public property using various means including ladders, aerial lifts, rope and saddle, and from the ground. The use of rope and saddle is not an essential duty but preferred.
2. Removes dead and hazardous trees on public property.
3. Plants trees along city streets, in parks, and other public areas.
4. Performs cabling and bracing work on trees, preferred.
5. Operates a variety of tools and equipment following instructions and safety standards to inspect and maintain plants. Equipment used may include aerial lift, chipper, chain saws, stump grinder, tree spade, tractors, and boom truck.
6. Provides guidance to seasonal employees regarding safety practices, methods of operating and setting up equipment, and property pruning and removing techniques.
7. Records work related information including work assigned and accomplished, materials, used, time-keeping etc. Updates and maintains tree management software.
8. Operate, perform related safety checks, and assist in the maintenance of aerial towers, assigned vehicles and other equipment. Operate snow removal equipment such as snow plow, snow blower, shovel, skid steer and utility work machines. Maintain chain saws and related equipment.
9. Develops solutions to work issues that add value for our customers.
10. Participates in establishing professional development goals that are supportive of broader city goals.
11. Maintains regular and predictable attendance. Works extra hours as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

- Knowledge of the principles and practices of industry standard tree pruning techniques and ability to apply knowledge.
- Knowledge of safety standards, practices and procedures related to arboricultural work and work as a team member in ensuring safe work practices are used.
- Knowledge of current tree removal practices and ability to apply techniques including rigging, preferred.
- Working knowledge of the proper methods of climbing trees and the necessary safety precautions involved and to work effectively in precarious positions at considerable heights above the ground.
- Knowledge to tree species and cultivars commonly used in parks and on streets and their characteristics and culture.
- Knowledge of tree planting techniques and ability to apply them.
- Ability to operate mechanical equipment such as aerial lift, chipper, chain saws, stump grinder, tractors, boom truck.
- Ability to use rope and saddle, tree spade, root cutter, cabling/bracing equipment is a plus.
- Ability to follow written and oral instructions.
- Ability to recognize diseases in trees.
- Physical stamina, strength, and agility and ability to perform assigned tasks in all weather conditions.
- Skill in the use of climbing spikes, rope and saddle, knots, and other tools commonly employed in pruning and removal operations preferred.
- Ability to work independently and direct the work of others.
- Understand the City's and department's mission, core values, plans, and priorities for the future.
- Ability to contribute to a positive work culture that fosters excellent customer service and teamwork.

EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

High school diploma or a GED Certificate recognized by the WI Department of Public Instruction. Possession of a valid Wisconsin Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with endorsements "ABCD" in good standing or the ability to obtain within three months of hire. Failure to obtain or maintain will result in termination of employment. Possession of an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist credential preferred or able to obtain in one year. Possession of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Commercial Pesticide Applicator Certification Category 3.0 Turf & Landscape preferred.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT:

Job offers for this position are contingent on the individual passing a pre-employment drug screen.

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

The ability to communicate effectively in both written and verbal form with a variety of city personnel and members of the public, and maintain effective working relationships with other staff, contractors and participants.

MATHEMATICAL SKILLS:

Ability to provide basic and some advanced addition, subtraction, multiplication, division mathematical functions efficiently.

REASONING ABILITY:

Strong interpersonal, communication and organizational skills and a strong sense of responsibility and initiative. Work closely with the Supervisor and coworkers in performing a variety of tasks. Ability to work independently in a fast-paced environment with frequent interruptions.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here 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 qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Above average physical strength and stamina is required while performing the duties of this job. The employee is regularly required to stand, walk, bend, handling of materials which may range from 50 -75 pounds for sustained periods. This work also requires lifting, standing, walking and reaching for long sustained periods. Also required is the ability to perform task related to repetitive motions with the use of the hands, legs, and back. The employee frequently is required to work outdoors in all climatic conditions. Some exposure to definitely disagreeable features using the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). The employee is occasionally required to work evenings and long hours and be able to respond to call-ins after normal hours.

The City of Sheboygan, Wisconsin is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Sheboygan will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.