

Tree Surgeon (3114)

TASK LIST

Tree Pruning, Trimming, and Hazard Elimination

1. Prunes and trims ornamental, shade, and palm trees using standard arboricultural techniques and specialized hand and power tools (such as , hand saws, pole saws, chain saws, and loppers) in order to improve tree health, structure, and aesthetic appearance while eliminating dead, diseased, or hazardous branches.
2. Trims tree limbs, foliage, and palm fronds near roadways, walkways, traffic signals, street signs, parks, playgrounds, golf courses, open spaces, and utility rights-of-way in order to maintain clear sightlines, facilitate safe vehicle and pedestrian traffic, address emergency situations, and prevent physical interference with infrastructure.
3. Removes hazardous trees near roadways, walkways, traffic signals, street signs, parks, playgrounds, golf courses, open spaces, and utility rights-of-way in order to maintain safe surroundings, environments, and infrastructure.
4. Identifies and evaluates structural defects, decay, canopy imbalances, and storm-damaged limbs using visual inspection methods in order to determine appropriate pruning or removal procedures and mitigate potential public safety hazards.

Tree Climbing, Rigging, and Aerial Work

5. Climbs trees of various heights and species using specialized climbing equipment, including ropes, saddles/harnesses, climbing spurs, friction devices, and ladders, in order to access upper canopy branches and execute pruning or removal tasks safely.
6. Sets up and operates rigging systems using ropes, blocks, pulleys, and friction brakes in order to safely lower heavy limbs, trunk sections, and brush in tight or congested municipal areas without damaging surrounding property, utility lines, or lower foliage.
7. Operates aerial-lift trucks (bucket trucks), booms, and hydraulic equipment in accordance with safety standards in order to reach elevated tree structures that are inaccessible by traditional climbing methods or to perform efficient canopy clearance.

Tree Planting and Structural Support

8. Plants, stakes, and waters young trees; and prepares planting pits, soil mixtures, and root barriers in order to ensure proper establishment, stability, and growth in varied urban soil environments.
9. Installs and adjusts structural support systems, such as flexible cables, rigid bracing rods, and guy wires, in order to reinforce weak unions, support heavy limbs, and prevent structural failure of high-value or historical trees.

Equipment Operation, Tool Maintenance, and Worksite Safety

10. Drives and operates heavy specialty vehicles and equipment, including aerial-lift trucks,

chipper trucks, brush chippers, winches, grapple trucks, water trucks, and hydraulic stump grinders, in order to transport personnel, process vegetative debris, and perform field operations efficiently.

11. Performs routine maintenance and safety inspections on hand and power tools (such as sharpening chainsaws and handsaws; checking fluid levels; inspecting climbing ropes, harnesses, and safety gear) in order to maintain equipment functionality, extend operational life, and ensure worker safety.
12. Establishes and maintains worksite safety zones, including positioning cones, signs, caution tape, barricades, as well as directing traffic or coordinating with flaggers, in order to protect field personnel, pedestrians, and motorists in high-density urban environments.

Leadwork, Communication, and Administrative Duties

13. Directs, guides, and trains Tree Surgeon Assistants and crew members in safe work practices, climbing techniques, tool usage, and job tasks in order to maintain operational efficiency and support staff's professional development.
14. Interacts and communicates with property owners, City residents, utility representatives, and public officials in a professional and tactful manner in order to explain work procedures, address public inquiries, and minimize inconvenience during tree operations.
15. Maintains operational records and logs, including work orders, vehicle safety logs, equipment maintenance records, and daily accomplishment reports, in order to ensure accurate administrative tracking and legal or regulatory compliance.