

## CITY OF HEMET

### TREE TRIMMER

*Class specifications are only intended to present a descriptive summary of the range of duties and responsibilities associated with specified positions. Therefore, specifications may not include all duties performed by individuals within a classification. In addition, specifications are intended to outline the minimum qualifications necessary for entry into the class and do not necessarily convey the qualifications of incumbents within the position.*

#### DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, plants, maintains, trims and cares for City trees and shrubs; operates a variety of power equipment, hand and power tools; demonstrates a full understanding of all applicable policies, procedures and work methods associated with assigned duties; assists in leading and training lower level personnel assigned to tree crews; performs other related duties as required.

#### DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

The Tree Trimmer is the journey level class responsible for the maintenance and care of trees and shrubs on City streets, parks and grounds. Incumbents in this classification work at heights, and operate aerial tower trucks in the trimming and removal of trees. This classification is distinguished from the next higher classification of Lead Tree Trimmer in that the latter is responsible for performance of lead responsibilities and the more difficult and complex activities of the work unit.

#### SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED:

Receives general supervision from the Parks Maintenance Supervisor. Assists in leading and training lower level tree crew personnel.

#### ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: *(include but are not limited to the following)*

- Trims, maintains and evaluates the health of trees and shrubs along streets, in parks and on other City grounds; uses various hand, power tools and equipment, including pruners, power and hand saws, hedgers, clippers, chain saws, blowers, and chippers; ensures a safe environment for the public and tree crews.
- Operates aerial tower trucks in the trimming, removal and pruning of trees; establishes appropriate traffic control around work sites, including delineation for road closures; lifts, loads, chips and disposes of debris and cleans work site; performs routine maintenance on assigned equipment.
- Removes trees that are diseased, dead or causing damage to concrete; uses stump grinder to remove stump; root prunes trees to prevent further damage to concrete; prunes trees to compensate for loss of pruned roots; performs cavity repair and tree surgery as required; treats cut surfaces to protect from damage.
- Plants trees and shrubs by hand and power augers; prepares planting site; waters and fertilizes new plantings; selects and applies appropriate pesticides and herbicides by mechanical and power operated spraying equipment.

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- Assists in the performance of a variety of clean-up activities in City park areas and assists with street decorations for City celebrations; assists in leading and training lower level tree crew personnel in the operation of a variety of vehicles and equipment.
- Responds to questions and concerns from the general public; provides information as is appropriate and resolves service complaints.
- Establishes positive working relationships with representatives of community organizations, state/local agencies and associations, City management and staff, and the public.

### **PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORKING CONDITIONS:**

Position requires sitting, standing, walking on level and slippery surfaces, reaching, twisting, turning, kneeling, bending, stooping, squatting, crouching, grasping and making repetitive hand movement in the performance of daily duties. The position also requires both near and far vision when inspecting work and operating assigned equipment. The need to lift, carry and push tools, equipment and supplies weighing 25 pounds or more is also required. Additionally, the incumbent in this outdoor position works in all weather conditions including wet, hot and cold. The incumbent may use cleaners, lubricants, pesticides and herbicides, which may expose the employee to fumes or airborne particles. Incumbents may be exposed to mechanical and electrical hazards. The nature of the work also requires the incumbent use power and noise producing tools and equipment, operate motorized lifts and motorized equipment, work in heavy vehicle traffic conditions, and often work with constant interruptions.

Some of these requirements may be accommodated for otherwise qualified individuals requiring and requesting such accommodations.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** *(The following are minimal qualifications necessary for entry into the classification.)*

#### **Education and/or Experience:**

Any combination of education and experience that has provided the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for a Tree Trimmer. A typical way of obtaining the required qualifications is to possess the equivalent of two years of experience in the maintenance and care of trees, and a high school diploma or equivalent.

#### **License/Certificate:**

Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid class A or B California drivers license.

**KNOWLEDGE/ABILITIES/SKILLS:** *(The following are a representative sample of the KAS's necessary to perform essential duties of the position)*

#### **Knowledge of:**

Methods, techniques, materials and equipment used in planting, removing, trimming and caring for trees and shrubs; methods of rigging, including ropes, lines, tackle and guy wires; characteristics of healthy tree growth and tree diseases; characteristics and proper application procedures for pesticides and herbicides; proper lifting procedures; occupational hazards and standard safety practices.

**Ability to:**

Operate a variety of equipment, such as aerial tower trucks, chain saws, pruners, chippers, and stump grinders; make proper cuts to drop limbs and remove trees; prune trees for the best effect; properly evaluate the health of trees; properly clean and maintain assigned equipment; work independently; respond to issues and concerns from the community; follow written and oral directions; observe safety principles and work in a safe manner; work weekends, overtime and holidays as required; communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing; establish and maintain effective working relationships.

**Skill to:**

Safely and effectively operate and maintain a variety of equipment, tools and vehicles used in the plantain, maintenance and care of trees.