



**DUTCHESS COUNTY  
CLASS SPECIFICATION**

**ASSISTANT TREE CLIMBER**

DATE ADOPTED: 02/14/1979

LAST REVISION: 01/24/2024

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**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:**

Performs semi-skilled tasks in connection with the pruning, trimming, spraying, transplanting and felling of trees. This position differs from Tree Trimmer in that incumbents in this position are required to climb trees and work from aerial lift trucks while tree trimmers work on the ground and from Assistant Tree Climber because it does not have supervisory responsibilities. The work is performed under the direct supervision of Tree Maintenance Supervisor or Tree Climber. This position is subject to pre-employment DOT drug testing and ongoing DOT drug and alcohol testing in accordance with DOT guidelines.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

The following is indicative of the level and types of activities performed by incumbents in this title. It is not meant to be all inclusive and does not preclude a supervisor from assigning activities not listed which could reasonably be expected to be performed by an employee in this title.

1. Trims, thins, and tops trees;
2. Removes dangerous limbs;
3. Braces and cables large leaders and limbs;
4. Uses ropes, pruning poles, files and other tools and equipment in pruning activities;
5. Executes rigging work;
6. Climbs trees in performing the above activities;
7. Operates aerial lift truck and related equipment;
8. Maintains and makes minor repairs to pruning and trimming equipment;
9. Uses and repairs chain saws;
10. Operates shredding and brush chipping equipment;
11. May assist in snow and ice control activities, including operating a snowplow/sander truck.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

Good knowledge of the practices, materials and methods used in tree felling, spraying, tree trimming;  
Good knowledge of pruning and shearing of trees and shrubs;  
Skill in trimming and felling trees;  
Ability to climb and to work at considerable height under dangerous conditions;  
Ability to perform all duties in a safe and appropriate manner, in compliance with OSHA, DOL, DMV, PESH, FMCSA and departmental regulations;  
Ability to understand and follow simple oral and written directions;  
Personal characteristics necessary to perform the duties of the position;  
Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

One (1) year of full-time paid experience in tree maintenance, tree removal or trimming of trees. Experience climbing trees is required in order to be considered for this position. Candidate needs to indicate experience that includes the safe operation, care, and maintenance of various hand and power



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tools, including hand saws, gas-powered chain saws, and/or other equipment related to tree maintenance and/or removal activities.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Candidates must possess a valid New York State Class B Commercial Driver's License at time of application and to maintain position. This license must contain no restrictions other than those relating to personal physical conditions. Such restrictions will be reviewed on a case by case basis for compatibility with job duties and will not be an automatic bar to employment. **A copy of the current valid license is required at time of application in order to be able to be considered for appointment.**

**COUNTY USE ONLY:**

<b>BARGAINING UNIT: CSEA-8</b>	<b>JURISDICTIONAL CLASSIFICATION: Non-Competitive</b>
<b>GRADE:11</b>	<b>FLSA Code: OT Eligible</b>
<b>REVISION HISTORY: 02/14/79 07/10/92 01/24/19 12/19/19 08/29/22 01/24/24</b>	