



**DUTCHESS COUNTY  
CLASS SPECIFICATION**

**ASSISTANT TREE CLIMBER  
TRAINEE**

DATE ADOPTED: 1/24/2024

LAST REVISION:

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**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:**

This is a one-year entry level traineeship in which incumbents attend driving school and receive on-the-job training in connection with the pruning, trimming, spraying, transplanting and felling of trees and attend driving classes for the operation of motor equipment. The work is performed under the direct supervision of Tree Maintenance Supervisor or Tree Climber. Upon successful completion of the traineeship, the incumbent will be promoted to the title of Assistant 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. Receives on-the-job training in connection with operating an aerial lift truck and related equipment;
2. Attends Driving School, classes and trainings offsite for the purposes of obtaining a Class B Commercial Driver License (CDL);
3. Trims, thins, and tops trees;
4. Removes dangerous limbs;
5. Braces and cables large leaders and limbs;
6. Uses ropes, pruning poles, files and other tools and equipment in pruning activities;
7. Executes rigging work;
8. Climbs trees in performing the above activities;
9. Maintains and makes minor repairs to pruning and trimming equipment;
10. Uses and repairs chain saws;
11. Operates shredding and brush chipping equipment;
12. May assist in snow and ice control activities, including operating a snowplow/sander truck.

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

Working knowledge of the practices, materials and methods used in tree felling, spraying, tree trimming;

Working 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 understand and follow simple oral and written directions;

Ability to perform all duties in a safe and appropriate manner, in compliance with applicable OSHA, DOL, DMV, PESH, FMCSA and departmental regulations;

Personal Characteristics necessary to perform the duties of the position;

Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.



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**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Six (6) months of full-time paid experience in tree maintenance, tree removal or trimming of trees that includes the safe operation, care, and maintenance of various hand and power tools, including hand saws, gas-powered chain saws, and/or other equipment related to tree maintenance and/or removal activities. Experience climbing trees is required in order to be considered for this position.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:**

1. Candidates must possess a valid New York State driver’s license at time of application. **A copy of the current driver’s license is required at time of application to be able to be considered for appointment.**
2. A valid New York State Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL) must be obtained within 6 months of appointment in order to maintain the position.

**COUNTY USE ONLY:**

<b>BARGAINING UNIT: CSEA-8</b>	<b>JURISDICTIONAL CLASSIFICATION: Competitive</b>
<b>GRADE: 10</b>	<b>FLSA Code: OT Eligible</b>
<b>REVISION HISTORY: 01/24/24</b>	