

## SENIOR TREE SURGEON

### DEFINITION

Assists the Tree Maintenance Supervisor in planning and supervising tree surgery and tree trimming work, estimates job costs, and performs skilled tree surgery and trimming.

### TYPICAL DUTIES

Supervises the work of personnel performing tree surgery and tree trimming.  
Inspects trees on school and office sites and determines the best methods of performing tree surgery and trimming.  
Estimates labor and material costs of proposed tree work.  
Inspects work progress and the quality of work performed.  
Climbs, repairs, trims, tops, prunes, and shapes trees.  
Boxes, balls, cables, braces, and fells trees.  
Strips or supervises the stripping of vines from buildings.  
Operates hand and power tools and equipment.  
Inspects hand and power tools for serviceability and safety.  
Sharpens or supervises the sharpening of cutting edges.  
Changes or supervises the changing of blades inside chippers and on chain saws.  
Performs the more difficult tree surgery work.  
Maintains records of time expended on jobs.  
May act for the Tree Maintenance Supervisor during absences.  
Performs related duties as assigned.

### DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS AMONG RELATED CLASSES

A Senior Tree Surgeon supervises a crew performing tree trimming and tree surgery, performs the more skilled work, and assists the Tree Maintenance Supervisor by inspecting trees and estimating work costs.

The Tree Maintenance Supervisor plans and supervises the work of crews performing tree trimming and tree surgery work throughout the District.

A Tree Surgeon trims, shapes, and prunes trees and performs basic tree surgery.

### SUPERVISION

General supervision is received from the Tree Maintenance Supervisor. Supervision is exercised over Tree Surgeons, a Heavy Truck Driver, Maintenance Workers, and Gardeners.

## CLASS QUALIFICATIONS

### Knowledge of:

- Types and treatment of various tree diseases and pests
- Care of trees and shrubbery in the Los Angeles area
- Tree surgery techniques
- Tree trimming, pruning, shaping, surgery, and arboriculture
- Types of knots and rigging required in tree climbing and felling
- Methods of cabling, bracing, boxing, and balling trees
- Bud cutting and angular tree cutting
- Safety precautions and equipment necessary in tree surgery and tree trimming work
- Operation of tools and machinery used in tree moving and trimming

### Ability to:

- Plan, assign, supervise, and review the work of tree maintenance crews
- Estimate time and material costs and keep job cost records
- Prepare job order requests
- Determine corrective measures for tree diseases and pests
- Supervise the installation of safety measures in areas where tree work is in progress and when felling trees close to power lines and buildings
- Safely use hand and power tools and equipment, including a truck and aerial boom, in tree trimming and tree surgery work

### Special Physical Requirement:

Agility to climb tall trees by means of ropes, safety belts, and other climbing apparatus.

## ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS

### Education:

Graduation from high school or evidence of equivalent educational proficiency, preferably supplemented by courses in tree surgery arboriculture, horticulture, agriculture and supervision.

### Experience:

Three years of experience in tree surgery that includes trimming, pruning, and felling. Experience must also include the trimming of tall trees using ropes, safety belts, and other climbing apparatus.

### Special:

- A valid California Driver License.
- Use of an automobile.

This class description is not a complete statement of essential functions, responsibilities, or requirements. Requirements are representative of the minimum level of knowledge, skills, and abilities. Management retains the discretion to add or change typical duties of the position at any time.

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