UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Foreman Tree Trimmer

DEFINITION:

Works as the Lead member of a professional line clearance crew. Directs crew in removal of tree branches and/or treetops that interfere with power lines and live or dead trees. Leads crew in right-of-way clearing assignments such as ditching, placing culverts, road maintenance, gate installation or repair as required. Contacts property owners regarding tree removal or tree trimming. This position is under the direction of the Superintendent of Vegetation Management.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

The Foreman Tree Trimmer classification is distinguished from the Journeyman Tree Trimmer classification by the increased responsibility for leading, training, and evaluating crew members while ensuring safety rules and regulations and District policies, practices and procedures are followed. Lead positions work as part of the crew as necessary. Relief for the Foreman Tree Trimmer shall be from the Journeyman Tree Trimmer classification. The incumbent will be required to supply their own personal preferred climbing equipment.

The Foreman Tree Trimmer shall be filled through the Foreman in Training (FIT) program candidate pool. If a FIT program has not yet been established, the selection will be made through a joint collaborative interview process comprised of an equal number of management and represented members. Represented members participating in the interview process will be selected by IBEW Leadership.

BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Directs activities of personnel in equal or lower classifications (i.e., Tree Trimmers, Equipment Operators, Line Helpers and Flaggers) and assists in training Tree Trimmers and Helpers.
2. Conducts daily and job specific briefings before starting each job discussing associated hazards, special precautions and work procedures in accordance with WAC 296-45.
3. Performs follow-up to work assignments ensuring proper completion and necessary follow-up.
4. Contacts property owners as directed for permission to remove or trim trees and completes required paperwork.
5. Removes tree branches and/or tree tops that interfere with power lines.
6. Uses climbing equipment, manlifts, block tackles, axes, power and hand saws and other tree trimming equipment that may be used to cut down live or dead trees.
7. Responds to customer inquiries.
8. Inspects job sites to ensure proper clean-up and removal of debris.
9. Feeds cut branches into chopping machine and cleans brush and debris.
10. Drives and operates boom trucks, chip trucks and other vehicles to job site as needed.
11. Performs other comparable duties in conjunction with tree trimming and right-of-way clearing assignments such as ditching, placing culverts, road maintenance, gate installation or repair, etc. as required.
12. Sharpens and services tree trimming equipment as required.
13. Enforces applicable safety rules contained in the District's Accident Prevention Manual and WAC 296-24, 296-45, 296-54, 296-62, and 296-155.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Conducts daily inspection of manlift equipment to ensure proper operation prior to start of work activity.
2. Ensures proper use and care of equipment assigned.

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3. Minimizes damage to public and private property during tree trimming/removal operations.
4. Performs other related duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of:

- Tools, materials and equipment of the trade.
- Electrical fundamentals and theory.
- Applicable policies, procedures, Collective Bargaining Agreement and letters of understanding of the District, to ensure proper procedures are followed.
- Oral and written communication techniques.
- Line clearance and tree removal techniques.
- Tree/Bucket rescue techniques.
- Leadership techniques.
- First Aid and CPR methods.
- Various District forms, reports, and the time sheet completion process.
- Occupational hazards and safety precautions required for line clearance tree trimming.
- District Accident Prevention Manual.
- WAC 296-24, 296-45, 296-54, 296-62, and 296-155.
- Equipment inspection and routine maintenance techniques.

Ability to:

- Communicate and work effectively in a team environment with both internal and external customers.
- Climb trees in excess of 100 feet using proper climbing equipment.
- Plan and organize work, incorporating changing District priorities.
- Receive, issue, and carry out assignments, initiate tasks and work without close supervision.
- Lead crew members.
- Direct the work of others.
- Successfully complete assigned tasks within schedules.
- Use the latest technology and equipment available at the District in performing assigned tasks and projects.
- Interpret and apply codes, regulations, policies and procedures.
- Identify, analyze and resolve problems.
- Assist in training other department personnel.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Maintain records and prepare reports.
- Drive and operate vehicles of different sizes related to line clearance tree trimming.
- Perform inspections on the assigned tasks to assure compliance with the project specifications.

These qualifications are those usually exhibited by a person with:

Education/Experience:

- High School Diploma or equivalent.
- Electric utility experience required.
- Completion of Certified Apprentice Tree Trimmer program.

License, Certification and/or Testing:

- Journeyman Tree Trimmers card.
- Current Washington State Commercial Driver's License (Class A) with a good driving record.
- Herbicide applicators license.
- Tree/bucket rescue certification.
- Must satisfactorily complete or be willing to satisfactorily complete District Supervision/Management courses or a Supervisor/Management course approved by the District within the first six months as a Foreman Tree Trimmer.

- Foreman in Training (FIT) program candidate pool or successful completion of a joint collaborative interview process.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Work is performed primarily in an outdoor environment subject to varying weather conditions during daylight and hours of darkness and a wide variety of environmental factors.
- Must be able to lift and carry heavy equipment and materials in excess of 65 pounds.
- Must be able to climb trees and work at heights in excess of 100 feet.
- Work requires lifting, climbing, hoisting, pulling and occasional prolonged physical exertion.
- Must be able to stand, bend, reach, push, pull, stoop and climb for extended periods of time.
- Work in close proximity to energized high voltage equipment.
- Works with personal protective equipment including hearing and eye protection.
- Exposed to vegetation, chemicals, insects, pesticides and pollens.
- Must be able to work long hours as storm conditions dictate.
- Subject to 24-hour call-out for emergency conditions.

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