

CLIMBER – MUNICIPAL TREE CARE

JOB DESCRIPTION

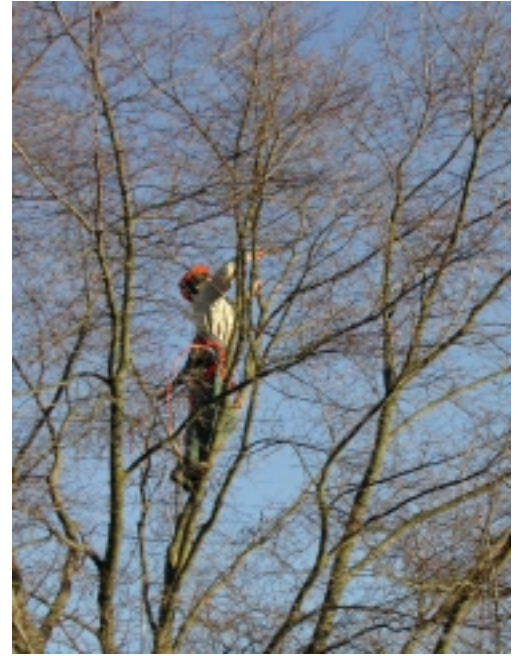
A municipal tree climber position participates in all aspects of tree work for the community. Duties will primarily include street or park tree pruning and removals. In some situations, work duties can also include tree planting, hazard tree assessment, diagnosis, and pest control. Work may also include other landscape and non-arboricultural duties.

TYPICAL BACKGROUND

Individuals becoming climbers likely have worked in the industry, usually as a groundworker.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Climbers must be in very good physical condition and possess a strong interest and attitude to work outdoors. Ability to obtain a Commercial Drivers License (CDL) will most likely be required. A high school diploma is preferred.



EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDS

- General work site safety and hazard recognition
- Selection and use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Vehicle safety, safe operation, and driving
- Understanding work orders and plans
- Job briefings
- Emergency procedures
- Electrical hazards training
- Chipper use and safety
- Basic knots and climbing techniques
- Advanced climbing techniques and equipment
- Basic knots and rope operation for rigging
- Proper equipment use and maintenance
- Advanced chain saw use and felling techniques
- Pruning principles and techniques
- Cabling and bracing (and lightning protection)
- Tree identification and basic tree biology
- Beginning diagnostic training

EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS

- NAA/ISA Video Training Series and Workbook: *Basic Training for Tree Climbers*
- ISA ArborMaster Video Series and Workbook: *Climbing Techniques*
- ISA ArborMaster Video Series and Workbook: *Chain Saw Use and Safety*
- ISA ArborMaster Video Series and Book: *The Art and Science of Practical Rigging*
- ISA: *Tree Climbers' Guide*
- ANSI Z133.1 Safety Standards
- ANSI A300 Pruning
- ANSI A300 Cabling and Bracing
- NAA Video set: *Rigging for Removal*
- NAA Video: *Ropes, Knots, and Climbing*
- NAA Tailgate Safety Program
- Electrical Hazards Awareness Program
- Best Management Practice: Pruning
- *ISA Arborists' Certification Study Guide*

CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

ISA Certified Tree Climber recommended; ISA Certified Arborist may be required; Commercial Drivers License (CDL) most likely will be required; State Pesticide Applicator License is often required.

TYPICAL FUTURE CAREER PATHS

Municipal tree climbers usually progress to positions of aerial lift operators, forepersons, and supervisors. Some workers may switch to other aspects of tree care such as commercial or utility operations.