

### Plant Health Care (PHC) Monitor Residential | Commercial Tree Care

#### JOB DESCRIPTION

**P**LANT HEALTH CARE MONITORS diagnose plant problems and recommend treatment. PHC monitors also have the ability to carry out treatments. Communication with clients is part of the responsibilities. Monitors may also be responsible for routing equipment and PHC technicians.

#### TYPICAL BACKGROUND

Most PHC monitors either work their way up through PHC technician positions or transfer from other companies with similar work experience. Many PHC monitors have a degree in arboriculture, horticulture, plant pathology, entomology, or a related field.

#### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

A high level of knowledge about plant identification, physiology, insects and diseases is required. Some companies may require a college degree, and most will require ISA Certified Arborist® credential.



International Society of Arboriculture

#### EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDS

- ✓ Application regulations
- ✓ Chemical handling
- ✓ Communication skills
- ✓ Diagnostic training
- ✓ Emergency procedures
- ✓ Entomology
- ✓ General work site safety
- ✓ Hazard recognition
- ✓ Plant pathology
- ✓ Plant selection
- ✓ Proper equipment use and maintenance
- ✓ Proper planting procedures
- ✓ Reading and understanding work orders
- ✓ Tree and shrub identification
- ✓ Tree biology

#### EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS

- ✓ *ANSI A300 Fertilization Standard* (or applicable national standard)
- ✓ *ANSI Z133 Safety Standard for Arboricultural Operations* (or applicable national standard)
- ✓ *Arborists' Certification Study Guide* (ISA)
- ✓ *Best Management Practice Series* (ISA)
- ✓ *Diagnosis and Prognosis of the Development of Wood Decay in Urban Trees* (Schwarze)
- ✓ *Diseases of Trees and Shrubs* (Sinclair and Lyon)
- ✓ *Insects That Feed on Trees and Shrubs* (Johnson and Lyon)
- ✓ *Managing Insects and Mites on Woody Plants: an IPM Approach* (Davidson and Raupp)
- ✓ *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants* (Dirr)
- ✓ *Plant Health Care for Woody Ornamentals* (Lloyd)
- ✓ *Tree Risk Assessment Manual* (ISA)
- ✓ *Tropical Gardeners' Guide to Healthy Plants* (Sanderson et al.)

#### CERTIFICATION/LICENSES

ISA Certified Arborist® credential and Commercial Driver's License are recommended. State Pesticide Applicator License is required.

#### TYPICAL FUTURE CAREER PATHS

PHC monitors for Integrated Pest Management may remain in this position or move up to Tree Care Salesperson.

For information on ISA Certifications and additional education training materials, please access <http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/benefits/credentialsExplained.aspx>