Career Paths in Arboriculture



Crew Leader Municipal Arboriculture

JOB DESCRIPTION

CREW LEADERS IN MUNICIPAL arboriculture oversee the operations and scheduling of the forestry field crews and equipment, ensuring that crews are operating safely, efficiently, and effectively. The foreperson must deal with resident issues or public concerns on an individual basis, frequently working with little direct supervision.

TYPICAL BACKGROUND

Most individuals becoming forepersons and supervisors have been working in the industry for several years. At least 3 years of field experience in arboricultural activities will be required.



EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDS

- ✓ Ability to read and understand MSDSs
- ✓ Aerial lift operation procedures
- ✓ Back injury prevention
- ✓ Chain saw use and safety procedures
- ✓ CPR, EHAP, and first aid procedures
- ✓ Emergency procedures
- ✓ Good communication skills
- ✓ Insect and disease recognition
- ✓ Knots and rope operations for rigging
- ✓ Knowledge of personnel management
- ✓ Knowledge of safe and proper climbing
- ✓ Need and appropriate use of PPE
- ✓ Proper equipment use and maintenance
- ✓ Pruning principals and techniques
- ✓ Safe vehicle operation
- ✓ Safe work practices
- ✓ Tree identification
- ✓ Work site safety and hazard recognition

EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS

- ✓ A Photographic Guide to the Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas (Matheny and Clark)
- ✓ An Illustrated Guide to Pruning (Gilman)
- ✓ ANSI A300 Standards for Tree Care Operations (or applicable national standards)
- ✓ ANSI Z133 Safety Standard for Arboricultural Operations (or applicable national standard)
- ✓ Arborists' Certification Study Guide (ISA)
- ✓ Arborists' Knots for Climbing and Rigging DVD and Workbook (ISA)
- ✓ ArborMaster® Training Video Series (ISA)
- ✓ Best Management Practice Series (ISA)
- ✓ Chain Saw Safety and Field Maintenance (Eckert)
- ✓ Electrical Hazards Awareness Program
- ✓ Manual of Woody Landscape Plants (Dirr)
- ✓ Plant Health Care for Woody Ornamentals (Lloyd)
- ✓ Tree Risk Assessment Manual (ISA)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

A high school diploma is required, and a two or four-year degree is recommended. Computer experience is highly recommended. Knowledge of all phases of tree care is beneficial. ISA Certified Arborist® credential may be required.

CERTIFICATION/LICENSES

ISA Certified Arborist[®] and ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification credentials are recommended. Commercial Driver's License is required. State Pesticide Applicator License is often required.

TYPICAL FUTURE CAREER PATHS

Municipal tree forepersons/supervisors usually progress to positions of further management responsibilities such as superintendent, city arborist, or village forester. Some workers may switch to similar positions in other aspects of tree care such as commercial or utility operations.