

## Utility Forestry Pre-Inspector

### JOB DESCRIPTION

**F**ORESTRY PRE-INSPECTOR is a mid-level field position in the utility arboriculture profession. Duties include pre-inspection and coordination of required line clearance work. This involves identifying work, recommending required mitigation, and obtaining appropriate permission to perform the work. It requires dealing with the public, individual customers, and close coordination with utility and contract employees and crews. Ability to work on a wide variety of special projects ranging from right-of-way logging to public education efforts is needed.



International Society of Arboriculture

### TYPICAL BACKGROUND

A Pre-Inspector can be an entry level position for college graduates, but on many occasions, these positions are filled by experienced tree climbers/forepersons and/or supervisors.

### EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDS

- ✓ Back injury prevention
- ✓ Electric hazard awareness
- ✓ Electrical theory
- ✓ Emergency procedures
- ✓ General work site safety
- ✓ Hazard recognition
- ✓ Job briefings
- ✓ Orientation to the tree care profession
- ✓ Proper pruning and removal techniques and concepts
- ✓ Proper utilization of herbicides and tree growth regulators
- ✓ Selection and use of appropriate PPE
- ✓ Tree identification
- ✓ Tree planting and early care
- ✓ Vehicle safety, safe operation, and safe driving

### EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS

- ✓ *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)
- ✓ *ArborMaster® Training Video Series* (ISA)
- ✓ *Best Management Practices Series* (ISA)
- ✓ *Diseases of Trees and Shrubs* (Sinclair and Lyon)
- ✓ Electrical Hazards Awareness Program
- ✓ *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants* (Durr)
- ✓ OSHA Regulations—1910.268, 1910.269 (or applicable national working safety regulations)
- ✓ *The ABCs Field Guide to Young and Small Tree Pruning* (Pleninger and Luley)
- ✓ *Tree Risk Assessment Manual* (ISA)
- ✓ *Utility Pruning: A Video Guide DVD and Workbook* (ISA)
- ✓ *Utility Specialist Certification Study Guide* (ISA)

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

Workers must be in good physical condition. Solid customer service skills are mandatory. A high school diploma is preferred, and some companies require a college degree in a green industry field, such as forestry or arboriculture.

### CERTIFICATION/LICENSES

ISA Certified Arborist®, ISA Certified Arborist Utility Specialist™ and ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification credentials are strongly recommended.

### TYPICAL FUTURE CAREER PATHS

Pre-inspectors can progress into various management positions. This career path can lead to advanced jobs at the respective company or lead to a utility arborist position at an electric utility company.