



**Classification Title: Arborist**

<b>Department:</b>	Grounds Services	<b>EEO6 Code:</b>	6
<b>Employee Group:</b>	Classified	<b>Salary Grade:</b>	28
<b>Supervision Received From:</b>	Supervisor, Grounds Services	<b>Date of Origin:</b>	9/2016
<b>Supervision Given:</b>	General Supervision	<b>Last Revision:</b>	9/2016

*Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are not intended to reflect all duties performed by individual positions.*

**JOB SUMMARY.**

Performs a variety of tree care services to maintain the health of all trees on the San Marcos campus and to help ensure the safety of students, staff and the public.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS.**

The Arborist is a single-incumbent class responsible for identifying and performing effective tree care, maintenance and pruning for 3,000+ trees, including the District's Arboretum. Assignments are received in general terms, and the incumbent is expected to act with independence to achieve department goals regarding tree health and safety.

**ESSENTIAL AND MARGINAL FUNCTION STATEMENTS.**

**Essential Functions:** Essential responsibilities and duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Identifies, inspects and diagnoses problematic conditions for all campus trees; confers with the Supervisor, Grounds Services to agree on proper courses of action to resolve tree defects and unsafe conditions; treats and manages hazardous trees; identifies tree-damaging diseases and pests and participates in the development of plans for their elimination; fells and removes dead, dying or diseased trees when necessary; employs cabling techniques to shore up weakened trees.
2. Develops and carries out a systematic tree maintenance program of tree watering, weeding, pest-control and trimming; climbs and maneuvers in trees and around branches using ropes and saddle; utilizes ladders and high lifts to access trees; uses various hand and power tools to prune/trim trees and remove tree branches; erects safe work zones around trees being trimmed.
3. Trains and leads the work of individuals assigned to tree maintenance duties.
4. Provides information and input to District administrators regarding the selection, protection, condition and maintenance of trees.
5. Maintains accurate records of action taken and procedures implemented for trees on campus.

**Marginal Functions:**

1. Provides assistance to other grounds maintenance personnel, as needed.
2. Performs related duties and responsibilities as required.

## **QUALIFICATIONS.**

**Experience and Education/Training Guidelines:** Any combination of experience and training that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

**Experience:** Five years of experience in diagnosing tree problems and trimming, pruning and removing trees.

**Education/Training:** Equivalent to completion of the twelfth grade, supplemented by coursework from an accredited college or university and/or professional training in arboriculture.

### **Licenses/Certificates:**

1. Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate, valid California driver's license by time of appointment.
2. Certified Tree Worker/Climber designation from the International Society of Arboriculture by time of appointment
3. A valid first aid certificate and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate by time of appointment.
4. Certification in Aerial Rescue by time of appointment.

### **Preferred Qualifications:**

Certified Arborist certification from the International Society of Arboriculture.

### **Knowledge of:**

1. Principles, standards, laws, regulations and current trends of arboreal practice, tree biology and urban forestry.
2. Basic horticulture and tree science.
3. Practices and techniques of tree risk inspection and assessment including various plant pathology and types of disease, infestations and structural defects common to trees.
4. Safe practices and techniques of tree climbing, cabling, pruning, trimming, care and maintenance.
5. Ropes, knots and hitches necessary for tree climbing and maintenance.
6. Operation of an aerial lift.
7. International Society of Arboriculture Certified Tree Worker standards and guidelines.
8. Recordkeeping processes and techniques.
9. CPR and first aid techniques.

### **Skill in:**

1. Developing and implementing a systematic tree maintenance program.
2. Identifying and diagnosing health conditions of trees and recommending trimming or removal.
3. Safely removing trees and tree parts with defects or unsafe conditions.
4. Determining and applying appropriate tree trimming and pruning.
5. Climbing trees using ladders, area lift or ropes, climbing harness and carabiners and operating power and hand tools while in trees.
6. Boom lift operation.
7. Performing skilled herbicide and pesticide applications.
8. Serving as a lead to assigned employees.

9. Understanding and following oral and written directions.
10. Performing basic first aid.
11. Communicating clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing.
12. Performing administrative practices and procedures, including recordkeeping and filing.
13. Maintaining sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, and ethnic backgrounds of community college students, faculty, and staff.
14. Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with those encountered in the course of work.

#### **WORKING CONDITIONS.**

**Environmental Conditions:** The employee works in a field environment; on ladders, high lifts and using ropes and saddles; exposure to potentially hazardous chemicals, heat, cold, noise, dust, maintenance machinery and vehicles; inclement weather conditions.

**Physical Conditions:** Essential and marginal functions may require physical fitness requirements necessary to perform the job functions with or without accommodation, such as the ability to walk, stand or sit for prolonged periods; lifting and carrying over 100 pounds; bending, stooping, kneeling; operating motorized equipment and vehicles; near visual acuity to inspect trees.

#### **TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT.**

The duration of any fully restricted funded position in this classification is dependent upon the continuation of funding.