

## **CITY OF SALINAS**

### **SENIOR URBAN FORESTRY WORKER**

#### **BARGAINING UNIT/CLASS CODE:**

**SEIU / J09**

#### **DEFINITION**

To perform a variety of skilled work involving the pruning, removal, planting, and general maintenance of trees and to operate equipment; to serve as a lead worker on a forestry crew; and to perform general landscape maintenance duties as required.

#### **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

This is the advanced journey level position in the Urban Forestry class series. Positions assigned to this class perform the full range of urban forestry duties normally expected of the Urban Forestry Worker II. In addition, a Senior Urban Forestry worker is expected to perform lead work for a small forestry crew, regularly assist in the training and supervision of less experienced tree maintenance personnel and serve as the department's job site representative to address citizen concerns related to tree trimming and care affecting their property or other interests.

#### **SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED**

Receives general supervision from the Parks, Grounds, Forestry Operations Manager. Primary supervision provided by the Urban Forestry Crew Supervisor. Exercises technical supervision over subordinate personnel as assigned.

#### **ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS OF THE POSITION** Duties may include, but are not limited to the following:

Lead a small crew in performing a variety of tree pruning work. Perform regular and specialized tree pruning work. Assist the Urban Forestry Crew Supervisor in supervising and coordinating work. Prune trees and shrubbery at or above-ground level using prescribed methods; to provide clearance of streets, sidewalks, signs and lights and as necessary to ensure continued health of trees and shrubs. Remove fallen trees, dead limbs, stumps and other debris during the course of a regular working day as well as on an emergency call out basis. Clean, maintain and repair Forestry Section climbing and trimming equipment; instruct and lead less experienced personnel in related duties. Work both independently, as a crew leader, and as a crewmember in all aspects of urban forestry related work. Plant, stake and spray trees. Operate and oversee the use of chipper, aerial lift, stump grinders, chain saws, drive trucks, and other related forestry equipment. Irrigate weed, prune and fertilize trees and shrubs. Perform general landscape maintenance work when not assigned to tree pruning duties. Perform related duties as assigned.

#### **PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CHARACTERISTICS**

Physical, mental and emotional stamina to perform the duties and responsibilities of the position; manual dexterity sufficient to write, use telephone, business machines and related equipment; vision sufficient to read fine printed materials on labels, Material Safety Data Sheets, manuals, maps, diagrams, to work with color-coded wires with no color deficiencies; hearing sufficient to conduct in person, radio and telephone conversations occasionally over the noise of operating equipment; speaking ability in an understandable voice with sufficient volume to be heard in a normal conversational distance, on the telephone and in addressing groups; physical agility to push/pull, squat, twist, turn, bend, stoop and reach overhead; physical mobility sufficient to move about uneven terrain of a park or un-landscaped terrain; ability to climb trees in the performance of Urban Forestry operations to a height of 100'; ability to perform Urban Forestry operations from an aerial lift up to a height of 55'; physical strength to lift from the floor up to 50 lbs and occasionally up to 90 pounds with assistance; physical stamina sufficient to sit or walk for prolonged periods of time and persevere long periods of exposure to pollen and grass - no severe allergic reactions to dust or pollen; mental acuity to collect and interpret data, evaluate, reason, define problems, establish

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facts, draw valid conclusions, make valid judgments and decisions.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

Perform heavy manual labor for periods up to but not limited to 8 hours per day. Stand and work alone on aerial lifts while pruning trees at elevations up to fifty (50) feet above ground or while climbing trees up to one hundred (100) feet above ground. Be available for emergency call out response for forestry activities. Work outdoors under adverse conditions such as night, in heavy traffic, in heat, wind, cold and rain. Ability to work in an environment with very loud equipment noise levels.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

**Knowledge of:**

Supervisory, training and inter-personal communication techniques. Advanced tree pruning principles and techniques. Methods, materials, equipment and tools used in the pruning and removal of trees. Tree planting and maintenance methods. Tree diseases, pests and proper materials and methods for their eradication. Safe and efficient work practices relating to urban forestry duties. Methods, materials, equipment, and tools used in general landscape maintenance work. Effective use of forestry tools and equipment and ability to safely, check and report any defects. Quality service techniques for public contact purposes.

**Skills to:**

Oversee the work of a small urban forestry crew. Respond effectively to citizen concerns at job sites. Perform specialized duties. Work safely and efficiently in trees of all sizes. Check, recognize and safely correct or report defects in tree climbing and trimming equipment. Operate and maintain equipment and tools. Work independently in the absence of supervision. Work cooperatively as a crewmember. Assist in the training and supervision and evaluation of less experienced personnel. To understand, carry out and give accurate oral and written directions. Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with others. Perform a variety of general and specialized landscape maintenance duties. Safely and effectively prepare and apply pesticides and herbicides and aid in the training of less experienced pesticide application personnel. Competently trim and prune trees. Climb trees and use tree trimming equipment and tools. Mix and apply pesticides and herbicides for effective results.

**License or Certificate:**

Possession of valid California Driver's License appropriate to vehicles operated.

**Education and Experience:**

Any combination equivalent to three years of skilled tree trimming and maintenance experience, which includes one year as a lead worker on a tree trimming crew.

Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Director

Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Human Resources Officer

Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ORIG: 2-84, REV: 2-94, REV: 01-07**