

## Arborist II

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### **DEFINITION**

The work involves arboriculture care and removal/disposal of trees and shrubs in all City parks, boulevards, roadways and other City properties. A variety of skilled arboriculture and horticulture functions are performed of a complex nature under the general supervision of the Forestry Parks Leader.

Positions in this class perform activities involving strenuous physical exertion at various heights during all weather conditions while utilizing the required personal protective equipment. Incumbents must use precaution to ensure the safety of others on public and private property, and must exercise courtesy and tact in the exchange of routine information with other City employees and the general public.

Work of this class is distinguished from that of an Arborist I by:

- the advanced skills required; and
- the high level of complexity of the arboricultural assignments involving the care and maintenance of the City trees and shrubs and
- the requirement for this position to take a lead role in training/mentoring Arborist I's & Labourers to ensure the proper skills and abilities are developed to meet the requirements and standards of the City.

Instructions are received either verbally or in written form and work may be done independently or as a member of a team. Given the nature of work performed, awareness and adherence to health and safety procedures remains a high priority.

### **TYPICAL DUTIES \***

Inspects the condition (performs structural risk assessments) of individual trees to ascertain overall health, identify problems such as disease, insect and fungus infestation, injury, overgrowth, or related conditions and takes appropriate remedial actions such as pruning, surgical repair, etc.

Assesses trees damaged by disease, weather events, drought, age, fire, lightning, collision, vandalism and other factors to determine the appropriate removal strategy. Clear hazardous trees and shrubs from light standards, power lines, public trails, roadway sight lines, parks, natural areas, or other areas within the City.

Removes (or directs the removal of) small to large sized trees in the appropriate manner and disposes in accordance with approved practices including the removal of stubs.

Prepares grounds and planting sites for the planting of trees and/or shrubs, plants specimens in the appropriate manner, and applies stakes, braces, guys and similar supports as required. Ensure that the appropriate amount of fertilizer, growth agents, water, etc. is applied during the planting process.

At times leading and/or training a group of Arborist I's, Labourers, Equipment Operators on assignments.

Records arboriculture data, fertilizer application data, tree and shrub inventory, prepares written reports and performs related administrative tasks as required.

Operates and performs minor maintenance on arboricultural equipment such as power saws, augers, water pumps, stump cutters, chemical sprayers, chippers, fertilizer drills and various hand tools. Drives trailer trucks, water trucks, aerial towers, cranes, trenchers, tree spades, ropes & braces and tractors/loaders with various attachments.

May perform grounds and turf repair by sodding, seeding, fertilizing and watering grass.

Assist Parks Leaders & Supervisors in preparing notifications, scheduling of pruning and planting, first calls, tree inventory/ assessment, mentoring & training new staff.

Perform related duties as required.

### **KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS**

Extensive knowledge of the various species of trees and shrubs in place throughout the City, including their susceptibility to disease, drought, infestations and other factors that affect their ability to thrive.

Knowledge of:

- the theories, practices, and procedures used in tree and shrub maintenance at an advanced level
- municipal park operations City of Edmonton, Forestry Operations Hazard Assessments & Controls and Occupational Health and Safety standards and procedures
- fertilizers, growth agents and related chemicals, including their appropriate use and mixing of application solutions as well as precautions and safe practices associated with their handling
- Microsoft office, SAP, SLIM

Ability to:

- maintain work, time, statistical and tool inventory records, electronic records, time sheets, work progress reports, pruning and planting schedules
- perform tree pruning inventory and surveys and remove small and large sized trees safely and efficiently.
- exercise courtesy and tact in answering routine inquiries from the general public and perform tree work generated by these inquires.
- practice and demonstrate appropriate health and safety precautions and procedures during pruning and felling operations while leading a team or working alone in accordance with ANSI Standards.
- withstand periods of strenuous physical activity when performing arborist work during all weather conditions and seasons
- communicate effectively, orally, and in writing
- pass equipment competency training
- perform other administrative tasks.

Skill in the safe and efficient use of a wide variety of general and special hand and power tools used in arborist work as well as the operation of all vehicles and equipment used in the arborist program and particularly the self-contained units.

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### TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Job Level:

Completion of the twelfth school grade, supplemented by current ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) certification or equivalent.

A minimum of 4 years of urban tree care experience is required.

“Urban Tree Care Experience” shall include demonstrated proficiency and mandatory training in the following areas:

1. chainsaw operation
2. ground worker operation
3. tree hazard assessment
4. tree felling
5. tree pest and disease management
6. bucket rigging
7. bolting and cabling
8. pruning
9. barricading
10. flagman
11. fall protection and
12. electrical awareness

Possession of a class 3 Alberta Motor Vehicle Operator's license and eligibility for a City driving permit.

Completion of the following required training: Standard First Aid certification including Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) and air brakes.

Completion of courses dealing with effective training techniques and mentorship.

Completion of Foremanship 1 (or must be completed within 1 year) and the Leadership in Health & Safety Program (Modules I through IV).

\* *This is a class specification and not an individualized job description. A class specification represents and defines the general character, scope of duties and responsibilities of all positions within a specific job classification. It is not intended to describe nor does it necessarily list the essential job functions for a specific position in a classification. Positions may perform some of the duties listed above but this does not necessarily qualify for placement into this classification.*

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Salary Plan	<u>10M</u>	<u>10A</u>	<u>10B</u>	<u>10C</u>
Job Code	2131			
Grade	109			

Last Updated:

Previous Updates:

Originated: July 2008