

# NEW CASTLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Number 0345

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## CLASS SPECIFICATION

Date 06/30/08

Title: TREE SURGEON

Approved:

*Charlotte L. Cowell*

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Performs specialized and skilled work in the pruning, care, and treatment of trees and in supervising the removal of dead trees; does related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: An employee in this class performs skilled work involving the application of specialized training and experience in the maintenance and care of trees. This employee has considerable independence in determining pruning needs and in acting on complaints. Duties often involve the hazards of climbing trees and pruning branches at dangerous heights. Work is performed under general direction. This employee usually supervises the activities of Tree Trimmers.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative only)

- Plans, assigns, and supervises the activities of Tree Trimmers engaged in the removal of dead or unsafe trees and the cutting and pruning of limbs which are decayed or interfere with utility wires or otherwise present a hazard;
- Supervises the cabling of trees to protect them from severe wind conditions;
- Cleans and fills cavities in trees;
- Sprays, paints, and disinfects trees to exterminate insects, pests, and fungi;
- Climbs trees with the aid of ropes and/or truck ladders and uses saws, shears, and other cutting implements to remove branches that are broken, dead, or impinging upon private property;
- Trims trees for clearance of utility overhead construction;
- Removes fallen trees from traffic ways;
- Assumes responsibility for the inspection and maintenance of tree trimming machinery and equipment;
- Trims branches to preserve visibility of street signs, stop signs, and traffic lights;
- Promotes an ongoing attitude of dedication to excellent public service and ensures that external and internal customers are provided with the highest quality of service;
- Reviews and administers corrective or disciplinary action for employees;
- Operates a personal computer and other related equipment in the course of the work.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Thorough knowledge of the common methods and practices, tools, materials, terminology, hazards, and accident safety precautions of the trade; skill in the use of pole shears, power saws, sprayers, stump cutters, wood chippers, and other tools and equipment of the trade; ability to plan and

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supervise the work of tree pruning, care, and treatment of various types of tree diseases; and to take necessary curative measures; sufficient physical strength and ability to climb trees and perform work at dangerous heights; good coordination and dexterity.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: At least three (3) years experience at the level of Tree Trimmer and preferably at least one (1) year experience as a Tree Surgeon and possession of a high school diploma or GED certificate; or an equivalent combination of experience, education and training directly related to the required knowledge, skills, and abilities.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: Possession of a valid Delaware commercial driver's license Class B (CDL B) or its equivalent. Ability to pass a Class II County physical examination and background check.

### HISTORY OF REVISIONS:

Established:	07/01/73
Revised:	05/15/89
Revised:	05/01/91
Revised:	01/01/96
Revised:	07/01/97
Revised:	01/01/02
Revised:	07/02/02
Revised:	06/30/08