



SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD

Job Description

TITLE: Journeyman Tree Trimmer

STATUS: Non-exempt / Union – IBEW

REPORTS TO: Line Superintendent

RANGE: Contract

With crew leadership from Tree Trimming Working Foreman

POSITION SUMMARY: The Journeyman Tree Trimmer position trims trees and vegetation from the electric line rights-of-way and/or helps with clean-up, which includes brush chipping. This position works in the proximity of energized primary electrical lines. Performs other duties as assigned.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Essential Functions

1. Supports and models behavior to promote the Mission and Core Values of SUB to staff and customers.
2. Develops and maintains professionalism and effective teamwork in the performance of job duties.
3. Maintains reliable and predictable attendance.
4. Maintains skills in the use and care of all tools associated with tree trimming.
5. Represents Springfield Utility Board in a manner conducive to good public relations.
6. Displays a high regard for work rules and safety practices.
7. Demonstrates the ability to rescue co-worker from tree or bucket during annual training.
8. Maintains a current Public Pesticides Application License and advises Line Superintendent of any law changes or required trainings.
9. Trim trees and vegetation from the electric right-of-way under the direction of assigned Foreman.
10. Demonstrates a working knowledge of and abides by: SUB's work rules and adopted safety practices, SUB'S policies and procedures and the IBEW contract.
11. Attends required safety meetings or trainings and is an active participant.
12. Demonstrates responsibility for the condition of all vehicles, equipment and tools provided for use in the performance of company work.

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13. Provides constructive feedback to the Tree Trimming Working Foreman to promote and maintain open and effective communication.
14. Provides a positive, inspiring and motivating work environment with co-workers.
15. Maintains a current Oregon CDL Class A driver's license and good driving and safety record.

Marginal Functions

None

Given the dynamic and challenging environment of the utility industry and our mission to provide exceptional service to our internal and external customers, additional duties and responsibilities, other than those listed in this job description, may be assigned (contingent on labor agreement provisions, if applicable). Your supervisor will communicate these changes either formally or informally, verbally or in writing.

Attributes

SUB strives to promote a safe, positive and caring work environment. In addition to the above qualifications, the following attributes are essential to be a successful employee at SUB:

- Being committed to SUB's Mission and Core Values
- Complying with safety practices and policies
- Being professional, honest, courteous and respectful to others in your conduct
- Being responsive to suggestions to improve performance
- Being flexible to adapt to a changing work environment
- Performing as a productive team member
- Being accountable for your own performance, behaviors and contributions
- Taking the initiative to accomplish your responsibilities to the best of your ability

These qualities in our employees ensure that working at SUB is motivating, fun and enjoyable while performing a valuable service to our utility and community.

OTHERS SUPERVISED

- None

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Experience

- Minimum of two years' experience in trimming trees from the electric line right-of-way and in the proximity of energized primary electrical lines
- Experienced and efficient in trimming from a position in the tree and from an aerial man lift

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

- Proficient in tree climbing with climbers
- General knowledge of common tree species and the correct trimming and shaping of each to control re-growth
- Must obtain a current Public Pesticides Application License within the first six months
- Must obtain an Oregon Class A CDL driver's license within the first six months

Education

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Successful completion of a recognized Journeyman Tree Trimmer apprenticeship program with supporting documentation

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL REQUIREMENTS

- **ALERTNESS & CONCENTRATION:** Maintains full alertness and concentration at all times while working in trees near energized wires, even in inclement climatic conditions, at night and at the end of an extended emergency storm shift (with no sleep and break only for meals).
- **ABILITY TO DEAL WITH STRESS:** Makes decisions quickly and calmly when working in the field near energized wires. Thinks and reacts quickly if accidents occur, especially those involving energized wires. Interacts well with co-workers, especially when tree trimming in a tree and in stressful situations.
- **VISION:**
 - Far Visual Acuity:** Assesses status of fixtures (i.e. wires, and devices) in a tree top from the ground. Sees adequately to drive line truck.
 - Near Visual Acuity:** Reads small print stamped on maps, labels, reports and construction drawings.
 - Peripheral Vision:** Maintains full field of vision in all directions to assess proximity to energized wires, co-workers, movements of bucket and other equipment to trees, or objects falling from above. Assesses position of knuckle on bucket truck boom in relation to overhead wires while observing the bucket.
 - Color Vision:** Judges red, green and yellow traffic lights adequately to drive line trucks on highways. Differentiates color of underground utility locate paint.
 - Depth Perception:** Judges depth very accurately to: (1) Ensure safe work clearance of co-worker from energized wires when acting as safety watcher; (2) Assess equipment in traffic.
 - Night Vision:** Maintains the visual abilities listed above when working at night and in poor light and inclement weather condition.

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- **HEARING:** Hears spoken conversation well while on the ground communicating with a co-worker in the top of a 45-foot tree, despite heavy background noise from traffic, construction equipment, rain or wind, and when visual signals cannot be used. Hears accurately the high-pitched "fuzzing" noise (about 6,000 Hertz) which occurs when making certain types of connections on energized wires. Hears adequately to operate a two-way radio.
- **SPEECH:** Speaks loudly and clearly enough to be accurately understood when on the ground speaking to a co-worker in the top of a 45-foot tree, despite heavy background noise from traffic, construction equipment or wind, and when visual signals cannot be used. Speaks clearly, communicating by two-way radio.
- **STANDING:** The worker stands on the job usually a minimum of 20 minutes at one time. The worker may actually be on his/her feet four hours at one time, but maneuvers around the work site at intervals. Total standing time is 50% - 100% of the average shift.
- **SITTING:** Worker sits on a bench-style pickup seat one and one-half hours maximum at one time while driving to a job site. Total sitting is one to two hours per shift.
- **WORKER MOBILITY:** Can change positions frequently.
- **WALKING:** Rarely walks one to two miles at a time on uneven ground. More common maximum distance walked is 1/4 to 1/2 mile. Total walking per shift is 20% - 40%.
- **LIFTING/CARRYING:** 0-10 lbs. - Continuous; 11-20 lbs - Continuous; 21-50 lbs. - Frequently; 51-75 lbs. - Frequently; 75-100 lbs. – Occasionally.
- **PUSHING/PULLING:** The pushing or pulling of tree limbs, often while bent over in a tree for up to 5 minutes at a time, four or more times a day. Other pushing/pulling would involve using a rake when finishing a tree trimming job or an underground project.
- **REACHING/HANDLING:** While in a bent over position, worker occasionally works at full extent of his/her reach and leans back while using tools, often standing on one leg and in awkward positions. Grips and firmly holds hand tools, lines and equipment for several minutes at a time. Squeezes hand saw to cut up to 3-inch diameter tree limbs. Uses tools wearing heavy gloves. Operates several lever controls on bucket truck as well as knobs and levers on brush chipper when tree trimming. Uses feet to operate buttons that control movements of bucket truck and chipper. Uses jack hammers, chain saws, electrical drills, and hydraulic tamps.
- **TWISTING:** Rotates head fully to both sides to observe equipment and co-workers while maintaining body in awkward position. Some twisting is required when lifting items that are brought up on a hand line or dragging brush. Often works in awkward positions.
- **CLIMBING:** Climbs hills and walks over uneven ground while dragging brush or carrying equipment.

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- **CRAWLING:** Not usually required.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:** Performs a variety of strenuous tasks outside with temperatures varying from below zero to over 100 degrees, sometimes in rainy, windy, snowy or icy conditions. Works around high voltage wires. Exposed to noise from traffic construction equipment near construction sites, jack hammers, hydraulic saws and tamps, and chippers, used when tree trimming, as well as chain saws up to six hours per day. Hearing protection is provided. Exposed to numerous types of pollen, depending on location, season or climatic conditions. Bee/wasp stings, animal bites or poison oak may also occur.
- **MACHINES/TOOLS/EQUIPMENT:** Power tools, hand tools, jack hammers, chain saws, hydraulic tree trimming saws, hydraulic tamps, rakes, aerial man lifts, chippers, trucks, and hot sticks.

Revised: October 2, 2019