**Class Summary**

The responsibilities of this classification include long-term care and management of trees on King County properties. Incumbents may provide technical information for capital projects and advise county staff on best management practices for tree resources, tree appraisals, and other arboriculture-related recommendations.

**Distinguishing Characteristics**

This is the first level in a two-level classification series. This classification is distinguished from the Arborist–Lead classification in that incumbents in the Arborist–Lead classification perform a lead role in planning, organizing, scheduling, assigning, and reviewing the daily work activities of an arborist program.

The Arborist classification is distinguished from the Vegetation Specialist in that incumbents are responsible for selecting and applying vegetation control measures, which may include certain types of trees, but it is not a preponderance of their duties.

**Examples of Duties**

1. Oversee care of trees and their appearance by pruning and/or repairing branches, training young trees, and removing damaged limbs; evaluate trees for disease and pest problems and develop Tree Management Plans for all assigned sites and programs.
2. Identify, evaluate, and remove hazardous trees or contract professional tree service for removals; create preventative maintenance work orders.
3. Calculate the monetary value of trees.
4. Provide customer service to the public regarding tree concerns on assigned custodial properties.
5. Operate, maintain, and inspect a wide range of vehicles, equipment, and tools, including chain saws, chippers, pole saws, and boom trucks.
6. Identify and assign tasks to King County staff. Train, evaluate, and assess the work performance of seasonal workers; ensure all staff adhere to BMPs (Best Management Practices) when completing arborist-related duties.
7. Advise and train staff in tree identification and diagnosis of common tree concerns.
8. Perform inventory and order supplies, materials, and equipment.
9. Perform other duties as assigned.

**Knowledge/Skills**

Knowledge of the safe operation and maintenance of assigned equipment

Knowledge of trail maintenance, landscaping, grounds keeping, and facility operations

Knowledge of entomology and plant pathology

Skill in working with the general public and dealing with difficult situations on a daily basis

Skill in performing minor repairs in the field

Skill in recognizing safety hazards

Skill in planning and organizing work

Skill in leading, directing, and training others

Skill in utilizing GIS/GPS equipment and software to collect data and create maps

Ability to effectively communicate verbally and in writing

Ability to effectively engage in and sustain relationships with people from diverse cultures and socio-economic backgrounds

Ability to work independently and as a team member

Demonstrated proficiency with business applications, such as Microsoft Office suite

**Education and Experience Requirements**

Any combination of education and experience that clearly demonstrates the ability to perform the job duties of the position

**Licensing, Certification and Other Requirements**

Valid Washington State Driver’s License

Washington State Public Pesticide Operator’s license

ISA Certified Arborist credential

TRAQ Qualified credential

Some licenses, certifications and other requirements determined to be necessary to meet the business needs of the employing unit may be required

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **FLSA Designation** | Non-Exempt |
| **Service Status** | Career Service |
| **EEO Code** | 8 |
| **Levels within same series** | Arborist and Arborist - Lead |
| **Class History** | 12/2017 – Created  08/2024 – Updated distinguishing characteristics |