To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform the essential job functions satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the primary job functions herein described. Since every duty associated with this position may not be described herein, employees may be required to perform duties not specifically spelled out in the job description, but which may be reasonably considered to be incidental in the performing of their duties just as though they were actually written out in this job description.

**JOB SUMMARY**

This is semi-skilled heavy manual labor in pruning, cutting and removing trees, limbs, branches and stumps. Employees in this class perform a variety of semi-skilled tasks cutting and trimming trees, limbs and branches and removing diseased, rotten, fallen or otherwise hazardous trees within county parks/preserves, rights-of-way and other grounds. Tasks are performed in accordance with established procedures requiring exercise of initiative and may require employees to supervise or serve in a lead worker capacity. Duties involve the hazards of climbing truck mounted or other ladders and utilizing bucket trucks in trimming at considerable heights and near utility power lines. The position reports to a supervisor or designee.

**ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS (examples, not all inclusive)**

- Climbs trees by truck mounted hydraulic lifts or extension ladders and uses powered chain saws, shears or other cutting implements to remove branches that are broken, dead or present a hazard.
- Trims trees obstructing the visibility of traffic signs, lights, and clears brush from drainage ditches including rights-of-way.
- Operates boom and bucket trucks, tractors, mechanical chippers and stumpers.
- Performs routine servicing and preventative maintenance work on power tools, machinery and equipment, cleans saws, rebuilds and adjusts carburetors and sharpens or replaces cutting chains and blades.
- Performs general maintenance and landscaping work as required or necessary.
- Performs other related job duties as assigned.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

**Education and Experience:**
1 year experience in tree trimming, landscaping, grounds maintenance or directly related occupation; or an equivalent combination of education, training and/or experience.

**Special Qualifications** (May be required depending on area of assignment):
- A Florida Driver’s License or Florida Commercial Driver’s License and endorsement, if any.
- Assignment to work a variety of work schedules including compulsory work periods in special, emergency, and/or disaster situations.
- Candidate may be required within 18 months of appointment to obtain and maintain a certification through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) as a Certified Arborist.
- Candidate to demonstrate more advanced proficiency, competency, and satisfactory completion of regularly assigned work in an independent manner. Appointing Authority retains discretion to employ an incumbent at this level or advance the incumbent non-competitively or competitively after a candidate meets the minimum qualifications to an in-line career ladder position within the same organization or department.
- Other highly desirable knowledge, skills, abilities, and credentials relevant to a position.
Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of standard methods, materials, tools and equipment used in trimming, cutting and removal of trees.
- Knowledge of occupational hazards and safety precautions of tree trimming.
- Skill in the use of pole shears, power saws and other standard tools or equipment used in tree trimming.
- Ability and strength to climb trees and work at considerable heights and to perform heavy manual labor for extended periods, occasionally in adverse weather conditions.

**PHYSICAL/MENTAL DEMANDS**

This work requires exerting up to 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects. Additionally, the following physical abilities are required:

- Crouching: Bending the body downward and forward by bending leg and spine.
- Feeling: Perceiving attributes of objects, such as size, shape, temperature or texture by touching with skin, particularly that of fingertips.
- Grasping: Applying pressure to an object with the fingers and palm.
- Handling: Picking, holding, or otherwise working, primarily with the whole hand.
- Kneeling: Bending legs at knee to come to a rest on knee or knees.
- Lifting: Raising objects from a lower to a higher position or moving objects horizontally from position-to-position. Occurs to a considerable degree and requires substantial use of upper extremities and back muscles.
- Pulling: Using upper extremities to exert force in order to draw, haul or tug objects in a sustained motion.
- Pushing: Using upper extremities to press against something with steady force in order to thrust forward, downward or outward.
- Reaching: Extending hand(s) and arm(s) in any direction.
- Visual ability: sufficient to effectively operate office equipment including copier, computer, etc.; and to read and write reports, correspondence, instructions, etc.
- Hearing ability: sufficient to hold a conversation with other individuals both in person and over a telephone; and to hear recording on transcription device.
- Speaking ability: sufficient to communicate effectively with other individuals in person and over a telephone.
- Mental Acuity: Ability to make rational decisions through sound logic and deductive processes.
- Talking: Expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word including those activities in which they must convey detailed or important spoken instructions to other workers accurately, loudly, or quickly.
- Repetitive Motion: Substantial movements (motions) of the wrist, hands, and/or fingers.
- Standing: Particularly for sustained periods of time.
- Stooping: Bending body downward and forward by bending spine at the waist. Occurs to a considerable degree and requires full motion of the lower extremities and back muscles.
- Walking: Moving about on foot to accomplish tasks, particularly for long distances or moving from one work site to another.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

Incumbent works in an environment with heavy equipment and machinery that could result in bodily harm to co-workers or others.