

CERTIFIED ARBORIST
Job Description
NRECA Job Code: 55-7341

Responsible for utility vegetation management activities and programs, such as electrical line clearance, tree maintenance, advising clients on suitable tree species and areas near power lines. Oversees vegetation management contracts.

Typical responsibilities include:

- Maintains an ISA Certified Arborist Certification.
- Meets with members/landowners and other entities to inform them of the practices and reasons for vegetation removal or trimming.
- Trims and prunes trees to direct growth and maintain their appearance. Examines and diagnoses tree diseases and growth problems.
- Leads, directs, supports and participates in the work of a tree crew. Prioritizes work assignments and carries out tasks in an efficient and effective manner.
- Trims/prunes and removes trees within prescribed right of way that endanger OCEC transmission, distribution, and secondary utility power lines to ensure public safety and maintain system reliability.
- Trains new hires and other personnel in safe work practices, equipment use, and all other arboriculture work related operations are compliant to industry best practices, ANSI Z133 standards, in house safety standards and all applicable regulations.
- Climbs trees of varying heights using rope, saddles, spurs, or aerial hydraulic lifts and bucket trucks to safely trim/prune remove trees.
- Respond to emergency calls to mitigate trees of imminent hazards, remove any fallen, damaged sections or entire trees that have or could damage powerline infrastructure.
- Identify and translate the danger and proper protocol for working and obtaining clearances when down powerline/structure has vegetation removal needed from powerlines/structures
- Maintains, inspects and operates a variety of equipment such as hydraulic aerial lift, bucket trucks, hand and power saws, woodchippers, winches, tree cabling hardware and all other field equipment.
- Execute job briefings with all personnel on the jobsite ensuring that all employees are involved and understand potential hazards and safety rules are always followed.
- Preparing reports, emails, and evaluations on computer or tablet.
- Obtain and maintain an Electrical Hazards Awareness Program (EHAP) certification. Responsible for tree crew training in all safety certifications and arboriculture work practices. Reports to Right of way supervisor
- All other duties assigned

Job Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED
- Maintain a valid New Mexico Driver's license
- ISA certification
- 6 years of experience in technical arboriculture work operations, four of which must include work in a supervisory role in the related field.
- Qualified line clearance arborist training.
- Experience working with storm damaged trees and downed overhead powerline facilities.
- Knowledge of Safety rules and practices used in operating and maintaining tree trimming equipment and trucks.
- Familiar with ANZI 2133 safety handbook
- Knots and rope ties used in tree trimming/removal work. Extensive knowledge of rigging and load pulley systems.
- Able to identify insect and disease problems which affect tree health. Knowledge of common tree species and growth characteristics.
- Tree trimming/pruning techniques and practices used in arboriculture industry. Climbing techniques and proper use and care of tree work equipment.
- Knowledge of hazards incurred in climbing, pruning, and felling trees and safety precautions to be observed.
- Ability to climb trees and work at heights in precarious positions and under adverse weather conditions.
- Lead and train a crew in performing all tree trimming and removal practices.
- Establish and maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work. Ability to operate a computer, tablet for emails, assigned tasks and mapping.
- Knowledge of basic powerline components and nominal voltages Ability to hear and communicate with another person up to 80' away.