Arborist Assistant

**JOB PURPOSE**

Assists arborists, feeds chipper, rakes leaves/limbs, sweeps debris, drives bucket truck and small tractor, provides safety and traffic control. Under the direction of a certified arborist: cuts away dead or excess branches from trees or shrubs to maintain right-of-way for roads, sidewalks, or utilities, or to improve appearance, health, and value of tree; Prunes or treats trees or shrubs using handsaws, pruning hooks, sheers, and clippers. Uses truck-mounted lifts and power pruners.

**CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Performs tree repair and maintenance treatments on damaged or hazard trees including cabling and bracing.

Cuts away dead and excess branches from trees, using handsaws, pruning hooks, sheers, and clippers.

Prunes, cuts down, fertilizes, and sprays trees as directed by certified arborist.

Uses truck-mounted hydraulic lifts and pruners and power pruners.

Performs general maintenance such as feeding chipper, raking leaves/limbs, sweeping debris, driving bucket truck and small tractor, picking up trash, planting flowers and snow removal and other seasonal tasks.

Performs preventative maintenance on tree care equipment such as chippers, chainsaws, climbing equipment, etc.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

Ability to determine appropriate tools and equipment needed to do a job, such as chainsaws, chipper, dump truck, winch, bucket truck, skid steer loader, tractors, blowers, drills, basic hand tools, and pesticide sprayer.

Ability to make critical public safety decisions in the field.

Ability to read and understand pesticide and herbicide labels and to mix and apply in safe manner.

Ability to perform heavy and strenuous work for extended periods.
Ability to work in safe and efficient manner.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Education: High school diploma or GED.

Experience: One year related tree care experience.

Licenses/Certifications: CDL and ability to be insured by Indiana University.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sitting, standing, walking, climbing ladders, squatting/kneeling, reaching, grasping, pushing/pulling, twisting/bending, lifting/carrying up to 50 lbs. numerous times per shift, fingering, talking, hearing, and seeing.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Spends most of time outdoors in possible temperature extremes, noisy environment, vibrations of body or extremities, risk of bodily injury from mechanical parts, electricity, etc. Possible exposure to fumes or odors that affect respiration and skin.

The intent of this job specification is to provide a representative summary of the types of duties and responsibilities that will be required of positions given this title and shall not be construed as a declaration of the specific duties and responsibilities of any particular position. Employees may be requested to perform job-related tasks other than those specifically presented in this specification.

A person with a disability who is pursuing employment opportunities with Indiana University and wishes to discuss minimum requirement accommodations should contact the campus HR office.