



JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Apprentice Trimmer (Hourly)
Department:	Vegetation Management
Reports to:	Crew Leader – Vegetation Management
Supervises:	None

OBJECTIVE

Enhance the reliability of electric service delivered to Nolin RECC members by keeping overhead distribution lines clear of trees, tree limbs, vines, and other growth that might cause service to be interrupted. Keeps informed and complies with all safety policies, procedures, rules, and regulations.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Demonstrates working knowledge of Nolin RECC's overhead electrical system policies and practices, including but not limited to the following: right-of-way clearances, weed control, equipment maintenance and employee conduct.
2. Maintains right-of-way clearance near overhead distribution lines by cutting, trimming, and removing trees and brush from the ground, from a bucket and using rope and saddle and other equipment.
3. Inspects work after completion with Senior Trimmer or Crew Leader to ensure compliance with applicable specifications and codes.
4. Works with the Senior Trimmer and Crew leader to learn to read and interpret maps, specifications, staking sheets and diagrams.
5. In order to gain knowledge, frequently asks questions to understand work processes and procedures.
6. Disposes of waste products in a manner that is consistent with Wide Open Utility Service procedures.
7. Trims trees, sprays right-of-way with approved chemicals and performs other work associated with keeping overhead lines clear of vegetation under the direction of the Crew Leader using recommended techniques and precautions.
8. Places work signs and barricades around work areas; patrol lines, looking for defective material, equipment, or unsafe conditions; notifies supervisor of problem areas.
9. Patrols lines as required after completion of work or for quality control.
10. Responsible for the proper care of company equipment, tools, and property. Ensures personal tools are kept in a safe condition and follows proper uniform guidelines.
11. Learns and practices first aid, CPR and bucket rescue and resuscitation; participates in monthly safety meetings. Completes and follows all OSHA and APPA training and standards.
12. Operates vehicles and equipment including buckets, trucks, wood-chippers, chain saws, etc.
13. Performs minor repairs and maintenance on equipment used in cutting and removing trees and brush including but not limited to the bucket truck, wood-chipper, saws, and other equipment as necessary.
14. Maintains familiarity with OSHA "Right-to-Know" regulations as they pertain to chemical substances, etc., found or used in the work area.
15. Conducts self in a manner which would lead to the best possible working relationship between the employee and other members of the crew and/or employees of Nolin RECC. Answers all member inquiries promptly and courteously and/or refers them to appropriate leader.
16. May be reassigned to other jobs as necessary thereby assuming those responsibilities and job specifications.
17. Works according to Wide Open Utility Service safety and driving guidelines, reports all accidents immediately, and is responsible for the safety of the assigned area.
18. Participates in and achieves expectations of Wide Open Utility Service Tree Trimming Apprenticeship Program.

This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive and can be expanded to include other duties or responsibilities that management deems necessary. Wide Open Utility Service reserves the right to revise or change the job responsibilities as the need arises. This job description does not constitute a written or implied contract of employment.

JOB SPECIFICATIONS

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE

- High school diploma or equivalent. Must have one-year experience as a tree trimmer with a reputable company.
- Must be familiar with trimming trees using rope and saddle.

KNOWLEDGE

- Understands Wide Open Utility Service’s safety and driving guidelines.
- Maintains a thorough understanding of tree trimming techniques, equipment maintenance, vegetation control procedures, and right-of-way clearance distances using the Nolin RECC construction manual and the NEC and NESC electrical codes. Maintains knowledge of Nolin RECC’s mapping system. Understands the proper/safe use of tools and equipment for safety purposes.
- Understands Wide Open Utility Service departmental relationships/functions and workflow between crew members.

CONTACTS

- Maintains a courteous and cooperative relationship with employees and the public.
- *Internal:* daily positive interface with employees at all levels within Wide Open Utility Service and Nolin RECC, provides daily problem solving, and coaching to assigned personnel; advises/makes compliance recommendations to Supervisor.
- *External:* Nolin RECC members (professional and courteous correspondence), Cooperatives (emergency situations at other locations).

ABILITIES AND SKILLS

- Demonstrates initiative, good judgment and ability, and a willingness to assume responsibility.
- Must be able to read and write legibly, read maps and take direction from leadership.
- Understands Wide Open Utility Service policies/ procedures.
- Must be able to learn and apply technical information.
- Must be able to climb, lift, work in awkward positions, use and operate equipment including wood-chippers, buckets, winches, drills and chainsaws.
- Relates and empathizes with employees/members and maintains a professional demeanor.
- Reacts quickly in the event of emergency and hostile situations.
- Works in a positive team environment.

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Outside work in all types of weather, temperatures, terrain, and road conditions.
- May be exposed to nature, irritating plants, biting or stinging insects, dust, etc.
- Frequently may encounter obstacles including fences, encounters with animals and the public.
- Works around excessive noise from machinery, chain saws and wood-chippers while wearing hearing protection.
- Potential hazards could include unlevel ground, falling limbs/debris and hazardous equipment.
- Must be available to work irregular hours including nights, weekends, and holidays.
- Must be available to work during outages.

OTHER

- Must possess a valid driver's license (subject to periodic, reasonable cause, post-accident, and random drug/alcohol testing).
- Must complete all required training including line clearance qualification. May be asked to attend additional training courses relating to the position and the cooperative industry or work during restorations which may require overnight travel.
- First Aid and CPR certification required.

Last Approved:	06/2024
Approved By:	Manager – Wide Open Utility Service

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