

TreesUpstate | Workforce Development Seasonal Tree Care & Maintenance Apprenticeship

Job Description:

Please read the job description below before completing your application.

The Tree Care & Maintenance Apprenticeship program was created as part of a growing national environmental justice movement for racial and economic equality. We're improving the lives of residents in low-to-moderate income areas through tree planting, arboriculture, landscape management, and sustainable careers for young adults (18-30 year-olds) who want to make a noticeable difference in the communities in which they live, work, and play.

We are currently looking to identify motivated, hard-working individuals to join our tree installation and tree care crew. No landscape experience necessary—training provided. Successful candidates will have a strong willingness to learn new professional skills while working outdoors, as well as an interest in creating positive environmental changes in the Upstate. Apprentices can expect to receive paid on-the-job training in addition to a wide range of educational, professional development opportunities and practical life skills.

Employment Status: Seasonal, Full-Time, Non-Exempt

Work Location: 660 Mauldin Rd, Greenville, SC 29607

Starting Hourly Rate: \$13/hr (Opportunities for performance based raises)

Reports to: Workforce Development Manager

Position Start Date: Monday, February 4, 2025

Season End Date: Friday, May 17, 2025

*Saturday workdays may be offered for overtime pay at the discretion of the supervisor.

Application: Go to TreesUpstate.org/workforce and complete the Google Form application.

Further Inquiry: Direct any questions to Grant Spikes, grant@treesupstate.org or call 864-301-1272.

What We're Looking For:

- 18-30 years of age at start date.
- No landscape experience necessary, training provided.
- Positive attitude and eagerness to learn.
- Physically able to stand, bend, squat, kneel and lift up to 50 pounds on a routine basis.
- Must be able to perform manual labor outside in all weather conditions, including rain, snow, and heat.
- Demonstrated ability to report for work regularly and punctually
- Possession of a valid driver's license, or an ability to obtain one within 3 months, is preferred.
- Must be able to pass a criminal background test.
- Must be able to pass a drug test.

What You'll Do:

- Install container-grown, balled-and-burlap, and bare root trees.
- Load, unload, and transport trees and other materials.
- Provide technical pruning for urban trees.
- Perform required maintenance including but not limited to: installing new trees, weeding, mulching, raking, pruning, installing / removing staking, soil tests, soil amendments,

- removing dead/damaged/diseased wood, removing small dead trees, etc.
- Evaluate tree health and assess for signs of common tree pests and diseases.
- Safely use and maintain hand tools and power tools (pole saw, pole pruner, chainsaw, weedwacker, leaf blower, etc.).
- Safely refill water tank from fire hydrants and water trees in times of drought.
- Test and amend soils for optimal growing conditions.
- Mulch trees, including correcting over-mulching.
- Install, remove, and correct staking and tree protection cages.
- Invasive vine and tree removal.
- Use the SC811 system to identify utility conflicts on the site before dig day. Verify a positive response for every site.
- Keep detailed notes on site conditions and accurate records in the maintenance log.
- Inspect quality nursery stock from local nurseries that meets American Standard for Nursery Stock standards.
- Assist with setup and training demonstrations at large-scale projects.
- Maintain a clean and safe working environment.
- Maintain a positive attitude and excellent work ethic.
- Represent TreesUpstate in the community in a professional manner.
- Other duties as assigned.

What You'll Learn:

- Arboriculture (tree planting, care & maintenance)
- Turf Management
- Landscaping
- Soil Management
- Job Applications
- Interviewing
- Professional Communication
- Financial Literacy
- Leadership
- Driver's License (training not provided)
- And More...

What You'll Walk Away With:

- Hands-On Training with Industry Professionals
- Network Connections in Green Industry
- Career & Life Skills
- Job Search Support
- Mentoring/Career Coaching

TreesUpstate affirms that inequality is detrimental to our staff, volunteers, and the communities we serve. We support a diverse and inclusive workplace where apprentices excel based on personal merit, qualifications, openness to learn, integrity, and job performance.