



Town of Sandisfield

Tree Warden

Job Description

Compensation/Benefits: \$3,000 stipend. As an appointed official working less than 20 hours per week, the Tree Warden is not eligible for benefits.

Job Environment: Tree Warden is appointed by and answers to the Sandisfield Select Board. Job requires conducting work outdoors that may involve the presence of unpleasant or irritating elements, such as odors, toxins/fumes, dust, loud noises, electricity, explosive materials, smoke, heat, cold, oil, dirt or grease. Work may be performed outdoors regardless of weather conditions.

The appointed official should be available in response to man-made or natural emergency situations on a 24/7 basis, 365 days per year.

Responsibilities:

The essential duties and responsibilities listed include the minimum requirements for the position. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them from the responsibility of the employee if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.

- Driving town roads to identify dead/dying/unsafe trees. Prioritize (1-2-3) and keep logs for power company/contracted work and highway department.
- Determine if work requires a contractor, electric company or highway department.
- Report any trees that require removal to the electric company and prioritize (1-2-3).
- Create efficient daily plans for trees to be cut when contracted out (except in emergencies)
- Emergency tree removals to be coordinated with the highway and police departments and fire department if a road is to be closed for a lengthy period of time.
- Planting trees on town land.

Priority Scale:

- 1 – Completely dead/danger from falling debris/danger to pedestrians/threat to life or property
- 2 – 50% or less dead/rot is starting/woodpecker holes/tree deformities
- 3 – Dead but leaning away from road/minimal safety concern/tree beginning to die

The Highway Department will assist with cleanup of large wood unable to be chipped to maximize budgets for takedowns. They will also assist with the cutting and cleanup of basic trees that don't involve high hazards.

Knowledge, Ability and Skill: Knowledge in all facets of arbor culture. Certification through the MA Arborist program preferred.