

LANTw35 - SQA Unit Code H2SG 04

Supervise utility arboriculture operations in proximity to above ground utilities



Overview

This standard is about supervising vegetation management operations adjacent to above ground utilities, i.e. work associated with, or in close proximity to, services and utilities including overhead utilities. The standard includes for the supervision of planned management of vegetation around the utility so it can continue to function safely and effectively. This will include safe preparation and implementation of required work with due consideration of the associated hazards. Those involved in this occupation must be aware of the hazards associated with utility work, particularly electrical hazards

The use of equipment and all operations must meet the requirements of current regulations, current codes of practice and industry guidance

This standard is for those working for or on behalf of utilities will have, or may require, specialist training, knowledge and expertise to undertake work

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 undertake a hazard and risk assessment of the site prior to undertaking works
- P2 implement appropriate control measures to current legislative, industry and utility specific standards ensuring correct use of personal protective equipment and tools
- P3 ensure that required signage and guarding controls are in place
- P4 appraise the site prior to undertaking works
- P5 identify utility specific apparatus and safety zones with potential to interfere with operations
- P6 manage the use of specialist equipment suitable for vegetation management operations adjacent to overhead utilities and structures
- P7 manage the maintenance and operation of specialist equipment in accordance with manufacturer's and utility's specified parameters
- P8 manage vegetation to ensure a reduction of its impact on overhead utilities
- P9 ensure working methods are in accordance with the assessed risks
- P10 supervise the work to ensure work instructions are being followed
- P11 put in place emergency contingency plans
- P12 suspend, cease or review work as appropriate to maintaining safety for all
- P13 maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times in accordance with current legislation, industry and utility codes of practice

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to prepare for emergency plans and procedures relevant to the site and why they are required
- K2 how to identify hazards and assess risks
- K3 how to interpret risk assessments
- K4 the level of risk posed by trees and vegetation from either its bio-mechanical condition and/or proximity to the utility
- K5 how to evaluate the tree for hazards and the implications of the hazards when identified
- K6 the likely impact of proposed utility work on trees and vegetation
- K7 the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), safety equipment specific to the utility in question and tools for operation
- K8 the potential hazards and risks associated with working in close proximity to the utility, including any associated structures and safety distances and use of equipment
- K9 the optimum aesthetic tree or vegetation appearance when undertaking works adjacent to utility and structures
- K10 the legislative requirements and purpose of utility specific safety documents
- K11 the implications different tree species, their condition and the time of year when planning to perform pruning operations and how this will affect the work
- K12 the basic principles of tree biology and the implications of crown reduction and thinning intensity to different tree species
- K13 how to resolve conflicts between retaining aesthetics and the requirements of the utility owner or licence holder
- K14 the importance of identifying, demarcating and maintaining safe work zones and appropriate routing of plant, tools and equipment
- K15 your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice
- K16 your responsibilities in supervising the work
- K17 the importance of regularly reviewing work and why it may need to be suspended or stopped

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Additional Information

Scope/range

Working in the following situations:

- 1 sites with trees adjacent to utilities
- 2 trees adjacent to utility structures

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