

LANTw36 - SQA Unit Code H2SK 04

Survey vegetation adjacent to above ground utilities to identify required management



Overview

This standard is about surveying vegetation 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 planned management of vegetation around the utility so it can continue to function safely and effectively. This will include safe preparation and surveying of work sites, planning of required work with due consideration of the associated hazards. Those involved in this must be aware of the hazards and risks 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 select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- P2 select, prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
- P3 assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed works
- P4 select and implement appropriate working methods in accordance with the assessed risks
- P5 ensure that required signage and controls are in place
- P6 undertake a hazard and risk assessment of site prior to carrying out the survey and implement suitable control measures to current legislative and industry standards
- P7 ensure any procedures for lone working are in place
- P8 clearly identify where specialised workers engaged by the utility must be used
- P9 survey the site, identifying the vegetation management necessary for continued safe and effective use of the utility
- P10 identify types of utility specific apparatus and associated safety zones likely to interfere with operations
- P11 specify the specialist equipment required for vegetation management operations adjacent to overhead utilities and structures
- P12 specify resources necessary to achieve continued safe and effective use of the utility in accordance with current legislative and industry standards
- P13 document and record survey details as appropriate to the utility and intended use of the data recorded
- P14 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 emergency planning and procedures relevant to the site
- 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 how to select prepare and use tools and equipment that are appropriate to the work, safely and effectively
- K8 the optimum aesthetic tree or vegetation appearance when undertaking works adjacent to utility and structures
- K9 the purpose of utility specific safety documents
- K10 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
- K11 the basic principles of tree biology and the implications of crown reduction and thinning intensity to different tree species
- K12 how to resolve conflicts between retaining aesthetics and the requirements of the utility owner or licence holder
- K13 the importance of identifying, demarcating and maintaining safe work zones and appropriate routing of plant, tools and equipment
- K14 your responsibilities under current environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Additional Information

Scope/range

Working/surveying in the following situations:

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

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Developed by Lantra

Version number 1

Date approved December 2011

Indicative review date January 2016

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Lantra

Original URN 029NTW39

Relevant occupations Arboriculture and forestry;

Suite Treework

Key words Survey; vegetation; utility; proximity
