

Course Objectives: At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Identify common species of tree
- Identify growth characteristics
- Identify hazard trees and branches
- Prune trees from the ground safely in proximity to a overhead power line using pruning head and pole saw
- Prune branches safely from within the tree in proximity to overhead power line (Optional – required only for UA2.3)

Who is the course designed for?

This course is essential for those employed in Utility Arboriculture in preparation for the City & Guilds (NPTC) Level 3 Certificate of Competence in Utility Arboriculture – Unit 2.1, 2.2 & 2.3. The training is physical in nature. Participants must have a good level of general fitness and stamina. Medical conditions must be reported to the course tutor prior to commencement.

Pre-requisites:

Trainees must hold: City & Guilds (NPTC) UA1, City & Guilds (NPTC) chainsaw units CS 30/31 to achieve UA 2.2, City & Guilds (NPTC) chainsaw units CS 30, 31, 38, 39 & 40 to achieve UA 2.3

Duration:

2 Days Training + ½ day assessment

Instructor/Trainee Ratio:

Max 1:6

Course Content:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of common species & tree categories A, B, C & D • Tree growth factors • Machinery • Knowledge & implications of different pruning methods • Assess site & electrical hazards • Electrical Method of Work procedures for each tree category • Use of pruning tools & appropriate PPE • Felling trees adjacent to overhead lines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typical slow & fast growing species and their significance in relation to growth in proximity to overhead lines • Significance & hazards of sprout growth, brittle stems, climbing plants, common defects, ill health and overhang • Lookout/Groundsman • Insulated Rods – assemble, inspect, use, minimum numbers, factors of care and maintenance • Utility pruning operations involving climbing activities • 1-2-3 cut sequence |
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- Briefing ground staff & effective communication

Required Kit List – UA2.1 & 2.2 Only

PPE:

- Chainsaw protective trousers (complying with EN 381-5)
- A safety helmet (complying with EN 397)
- Eye protection (mesh visor complying with EN 1731 or safety glasses to EN 166)
- Hearing protection (complying with EN 352)
- Chainsaw protective boots with good grip and protective guarding at front vamp and instep complying with (EN 381-3)
- Gloves with protective guarding on the back of the left hand (complying with EN 381-7)
- First aid kit (including a large wound dressing)
- Outdoor clothing

Tool Kit & Equipment:

- Chainsaw – guide bar length 380mm/15”
- Combination spanner/screwdriver
- Soft brush (to clean air filter)
- Round file and holder (appropriate to your chain)
- Flat mill saw file
- Bar groove cleaner
- Depth gauge setting tool
- Grease gun and grease (if applicable to your saw)
- Felling lever/breaker bar
- Felling wedges
- Two Stroke fuel & chain oil
- Insulated rods with pruning head and saw head
- Packed Lunch
- Passport Photograph

Required Kit List – UA2.1, 2.2 & 2.3

As above plus:

PPE:

- A safety helmet (HSE strongly recommends a mountaineering style helmet complying with BS EN 12492, with chin strap, eye protection and hearing protection)
- Chainsaw protective trousers with all round protection ‘Type C’

- As a minimum, climbers should carry a personal first aid kit, incorporating a large wound dressing, barrier gloves, plasters and a whistle

Tools & Equipment:

Full set of LOLER compliant climbing equipment to include:

- Rope
- Harness
- Minimum of 3 karabiners
- Strop
- Friction devices (e.g. prussic loops, split tails)
- Handsaw
- Top Handled Chain saw – maximum guide bar length 380mm/15”