



UTILITY TREE TRIMMER

Technical Diploma Program Code: 30-001-4 Total Credits: 16

The Utility Tree Trimmer program is a one-year technical diploma embedded in the Arborist Technician associate degree. Students are trained in introductory electrical awareness and safety, electrical hardware identification, tree pruning, chainsaw use, climbing and related aerial tree work, tree identification, pesticide handling and application, and tree biology. Teamwork and crew leadership are also emphasized. The program includes hands-on exploration and learning, and many classes are outdoors. Our unique aerial component ensures students gain experience while working safely in trees.

Estimated tuition and fees: mstc.edu/programcosts

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, call 715.422.5300. Academic advisors will travel to other campuses as necessary to accommodate student needs. For more information about advising, visit mstc.edu/advising.

CHECKLIST:

This section will be completed when meeting with your academic advisor.

- FAFSA (www.fafsa.gov)
- Financial Aid Form(s)
Form(s): _____
- Follow-Up Appointment:
Where: _____
When: _____
With: _____
- Official Transcripts
Mid-State Technical College
Student Services Assistant
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481
- Other: _____



mstc.edu • 888.575.6782 • TTY: 711



ADAMS CAMPUS
401 North Main
Adams, WI 53910

MARSHFIELD CAMPUS
2600 West 5th Street
Marshfield, WI 54449

STEVENS POINT CAMPUS
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481

WISCONSIN RAPIDS CAMPUS
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

CAREER PATHWAY • BEGIN AT ANY POINT

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

COLLEGE TRANSFER

RETURNING ADULT

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

- Certifications and Licenses
- High School Credit
- Military Experience
- National/Standardized Exams
- Transfer Credit
- Work and Life Experience

Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at mstc.edu/cpl.

TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

UTILITY TREE TRIMMER

Technical Diploma • 16 Credits

Start Your Career

- Utility Arborist
- Tree Trimmer
- Pruner

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS)

ARBORIST TECHNICIAN

Associate in Applied Science (AAS) • 60-61 Credits

Start Your Career

- Arborist (commercial, utility, government)
- Landscape Contractor
- Plant Health Care Technician
- Apprenticeship

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OPTIONS

Arizona State University, Bellevue University, Colorado State University Global, Concordia University, Franklin University, Grand Canyon University (GCU), Lakeland University, Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE), Mount Mary University (MMU), Northern Michigan University, University of Maryland Global, University of Phoenix, UW-Green Bay, UW-Oshkosh, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stevens Point at Marshfield, UW-Stout, UW-Whitewater, Western Governors University, and Wisconsin Private-Nonprofit Universities/Colleges.

For more information and additional opportunities, visit mstc.edu/transfer.

OTHER OPTIONS

RELATED PROGRAMS

- Agribusiness Agronomy Technician
- Agribusiness Science & Technology
- Farm Operation

APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Arborist Apprenticeship

OUTCOMES

Employers will expect you, as a Utility Tree Trimmer graduate, to be able to:

- Identify woody plants by common and scientific name.
- Apply tree biology for arboricultural maintenance practices.
- Adhere to industry safety standards.

TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) has implemented a requirement that all technical colleges measure outcomes attained by students. This requirement is called Technical Skills Attainment (TSA). The main objective of TSA is to ensure graduates have the technical skills needed by employers. Students are notified of TSA reporting in the final few courses in the program.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Visit mstc.edu/studenthandbook to view Mid-State's student handbook, which contains information about admissions, enrollment, appeals processes, services for people with disabilities, financial aid, graduation, privacy, Mid-State's Student Code of Conduct, and technology.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The GPS for Student Success course is required for all Mid-State program students and is recommended to be completed before obtaining 12 credits. (Not counted in the total credit value for this program.) Some students are exempt from this requirement. Please see your program advisor for more information.

GPS for Student Success ☑

10890102 1 credit

Integrate necessary skills for student success by developing an academic plan, identifying interpersonal attributes for success, adopting efficient and effective learning strategies, and utilizing Mid-State resources, policies, and processes. This course is recommended to be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits and is a graduation requirement unless you receive an exemption from your program advisor.

ADDITIONAL COURSES AS NEEDED

The following courses may be recommended or required if the student does not achieve minimum Accuplacer scores.

College Reading and Writing 1

10831104 3 credits

Provides learners with opportunities to develop and expand reading and writing skills to prepare for college-level academic work. Students will employ critical reading strategies to improve comprehension, analysis, and retention of texts. Students will apply the writing process to produce well-developed, coherent, and unified written work.

Pre-Algebra

10834109 3 credits

Provides an introduction to algebra. Includes operations on real numbers, solving linear equations, percent and proportion, and an introduction to polynomials and statistics. Prepares students for elementary algebra and subsequent algebra-related courses.

SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Term		8 credits
10001118	Landscape Plant Identification ☑	2
10001124	Arborist Skills Introduction	2
10001133	Chainsaw Safety and Operation	2
10001173	Pruning for Structure ☑	2

Term		8 credits
10001102	Plant Health Care Applicator ☑	2
10001108	Electric Systems & Safety in Arboriculture	1
10001110	Tree Biology	2
10001125	Arboriculture Operations 1	2
10001150	Workplace Communication in Arboriculture	1

Total credits 16

☑ This course has options available to receive credit for prior learning (CPL) or work experience. Visit the website at mstc.edu/cpl or contact your advisor for details.

Please Note:

- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- Program completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. For details, go to mstc.edu/schedule.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Arboriculture Operations 1

100011252 credits

Emphasizes practice of skills associated with being safe & productive members of crews engaged in basic tree work/ arboricultural operations. Topics include introductory elements of pruning & removal techniques, equipment operations, & work site set-up.

Prerequisites: Arborist Skills Introduction 10001124 and Pruning for Structure 10001173

Arborist Skills Introduction

100011242 credits

A hands-on introduction to the basic techniques employed by arborists engaged in performing aerial tree care operations. Topics include canopy access methods, arborist gear usage, safety considerations/risk recognition, and knot selection.

Chainsaw Safety and Operation

100011332 credits

This course will familiarize students with common chainsaw practices employed within the arboricultural industry, including safe operation, routine maintenance, common cutting techniques, and use of personal protective equipment. Students will operate and maintain chainsaws. Additionally, field exercises will simulate tree removal operations.

Electric Systems & Safety in Arboriculture

100011081 credit

Students will gain familiarity with electrical distribution and transmission system hardware identification. Industry safety best practices and standards related to performing tree work near energized conductors will be explored.

Landscape Plant Identification

100011182 credits

Introduces students to woody trees/shrubs and herbaceous plants commonly used in residential and commercial landscapes in Wisconsin. The three plant groups covered in this course are woody trees/shrubs, herbaceous perennial plants, and herbaceous annual plants. Identification, installation, and maintenance are covered for each plant group.

Plant Health Care Applicator

100011022 credits

Focuses on training to successfully pass the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture and Consumer Protection's pesticide applicator exam (which will be proctored in this class). Additionally, students are familiarized with chemical handling, mixing, calibration, and application via field exercises.

Pruning for Structure

100011732 credits

Focuses on the art and science of tree pruning. Topics include tree structure, introductory biology, pruning cuts, and young tree training. Students will gain hands-on experience performing tree pruning.

Tree Biology

100011102 credits

This course provides an overview of the major structures and functions of woody plants. The overall objective is to provide a basic understanding of these complex organisms, equipping you with a solid foundation to diagnose myriad health & structural abnormalities you'll encounter. Major course themes include plant functions, physiology, adaptations, root systems, planting, & basic risk assessment.

Workplace Communication in Arboriculture

100011501 credit

This course introduces students to the key concepts of effective and impactful communications in the arboriculture industry. Students will investigate the diversity of commonalities and differences among people and how they relate to improving personal and organizational effectiveness at work.