Provide environmental, social and economic benefits in today’s society with a career in forestry.

In the 8-month Urban Forestry - Arboriculture Ontario College Certificate program, you experience a hands-on education exploring arboriculture science with tree care skills. You acquire the skills and knowledge related to a range of tree care services provided by professional arborists, including tree climbing, tree identification, tree pruning, tree removal, tree fertilization, tree planting, and diagnoses and management of tree diseases.

Spend the majority of your time in the program outdoors, in a variety of weather conditions and heights. Working on real trees, practice climbing techniques and learn to become proficient in the use of arborist-related equipment including chainsaws, chippers and stump grinders. Develop foundational tree identification and safe tree climbing skills through theoretical, laboratory and hands-on learning. Participate in workplace scenarios that replicate actual challenges faced by arborists. In classroom and labs settings, examine tree science and arboriculture practises, such as planting, pruning and removal.

YOUR CAREER

Types of careers
Graduates may find a career as a(n):
• lead arborist
• crew leader
• arborist
• arborist assistant
• climber
• apprentice climber
• consulting arborist
• ground crew

Work environments
There are employment opportunities in a wide variety of areas such as commercial tree service companies, public utility companies, city, county, and other government agencies, landscape maintenance firms, nurseries, garden centres, industrial complexes, private estates, theme parks and resorts, arboretums, botanical gardens, tree research centres, and golf courses.

QUICK FACTS

• Our Pembroke Campus has over 50 years of experience in educating forestry professionals.

• 70% of the program focuses on outdoor practical training.

• If you choose to pursue further education, you are ready to write the College of Trades (COT) exemption exams for some college courses.

• Program graduates may be eligible for admission with Advanced Standing for a maximum of 8 courses in the Forestry Technician Diploma program.

• Your first step into the elite world of Urban Forestry - Arboriculture. Make a career out of your love of the environment.

“There are so many avenues that you can go into – you are not just going to be a climber – there are a hundred different paths from office work, to consultation, to forest management. You can even continue your studies.”

— GRIFFIN KOZIJ, GRADUATE
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I know if I am the right fit for this program?
This program is well-suited for students who: Enjoy physical activity and working outdoors; are willing to work in extreme weather conditions; are comfortable workings at heights exceeding 25M (80 feet); are able to lift one's own weight; have an affinity to working with trees and shrubs; work well in a team environment; enjoy problem solving; and possess good communication skills.

Do I need to have any specific equipment by the time school starts in September?
Yes. Students are required to purchase basic industry gear including, CSA approved hard hat with minimum 90 decibel hearing protection attached to hat and chin strap, safety glasses, work gloves, CSA approved chainsaw protective pants (no chaps) minimum 10 ply Kevlar, must have rear calf protection, approved work boots (must have green triangle and the Omega sign badges, composite shank and toe (no metal), high visibility vest, and a rescue whistle. The approximate cost of the safety equipment can range from $500 to $1000.

How much time will I spend outside of the classroom?
Students spend 70% of their time over the eight months outside, in all weather conditions, practising their climbing techniques on real trees in the landscape. In addition to this, real workplace scenarios will be set up so that students have the best head start to jump into the industry as efficient workers.

What are the admission requirements for this program?
• Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent. Applicants with an OSSD showing senior English and/or mathematics courses at the Basic Level, or with Workplace or Open courses, will be tested to determine their eligibility for admission; OR Academic and Career Entrance (ACE) certificate; OR General Educational Development (GED) certificate; OR Mature Student status (19 years of age or older and without a high school diploma at the start of the program). Eligibility may be determined by academic achievement testing for which a fee of $50 will be charged.
• English, Grade 12 (ENG4C) or equivalent with a grade of 60% or higher.

How much does it cost to take this program?
Tuition and related ancillary fees can be viewed by using the Tuition and Fees Estimator tool at algonquincollege.com/fee-estimator.

What are the courses in the program?

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<th>Equipment Operations and Maintenance</th>
<th>Forest Entomology and Pathology</th>
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<td>Tree Sciences and Practices</td>
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<td>Tree Removal</td>
<td>Urban Soils</td>
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<td>Choose One Elective Course</td>
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Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of the publication. However, for the most-up-to-date information, please visit the website.

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