

Tree Experts and Tree Care Operators Licensing Act in Brief:

- The Act repeals the “tree expert act” (1940) and provides a new licensing scheme for tree care providers. It establishes the titles “Licensed Tree Expert” and “Licensed Tree Care Operator”
- The Act re-establishes a “Board of Tree Experts” in the DEP with increased membership from 3 to 9 members.
- The Act establishes minimum qualifications to take the examinations and identifies specific tree services that each title can perform.
- The Act requires that at least 1 person in each company hiring itself out to perform tree care services be licensed.
- The Act requires minimum continuing education units be earned prior to re-issuance of the license.
- The Act stipulates that tree care companies register with the board and provide instruction and training on safe use of equipment and safe working procedures at the work site.
- The Act requires proof of liability insurance and workers compensation insurance.
- The Act permits the Board after notice and hearing to suspend or revoke a license, and/or revoke or suspend a registration of a tree care business due to cause.
- The Act permits the Board to levy fines for violations.