

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6824

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

March 25, 2025

Introduced by Sen. SERRANO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation

AN ACT to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, in relation to requiring sawyer training for employees engaged in tree maintenance

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The parks, recreation and historic preservation law is  
2 amended by adding a new section 3.16 to read as follows:

3 § 3.16 Required sawyer training. 1. Beginning April first, two thou-  
4 sand twenty-six, no person employed by the office shall:

5 (a) engage in tree maintenance, including but not limited to brushing,  
6 bucking, limbing, and felling, without first obtaining a level A sawyer  
7 certification through the United States forest service national crosscut  
8 and chainsaw program;

9 (b) engage in tree maintenance in hazardous conditions without first  
10 obtaining a level B sawyer certification through the United States  
11 forest service national crosscut and chainsaw program; or

12 (c) provide instruction and training on tree maintenance without first  
13 obtaining a level C sawyer certification through the United States  
14 forest service national crosscut and chainsaw program.

15 2. All training mandated by this section shall be conducted during the  
16 employee's regular working hours and employees shall receive compen-  
17 sation at their regular rate of pay for any time spent participating in  
18 such training.

19 3. For the purposes of this section, "hazardous conditions" shall mean  
20 any situation that poses a significant risk to the health and safety of  
21 personnel, including but not limited to natural disasters, extreme  
22 weather, and other emergency situations.

23 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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