

FORESTER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision of the Deputy Commissioner, develops, directs and supervises a forestry program for all County Park facilities. The incumbent is responsible for developing and implementing a forestry and tree maintenance program. The work involves setting priorities, developing programs, overseeing tree care and training personnel in tree care, pesticide use, forest fire-fighting. Supervision may be exercised over subordinate maintenance staff. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Develops and implements a forestry program which includes identifying the type and condition of forest stands, mapping of timberland, evaluating the quality and quantity of trees, the harvesting and developing a saw timber and firewood sale program, and supervising the reforestation program;

Provides technical assistance to other governmental agencies and the general public regarding planting, tree removal, insect and disease control, forest and wood lot management, firewood usage, available information resources, and safety practices;

Participates in the public information program by preparing publications, speeches, seminars, and other programs related to tree care, forestry and horticulture;

Assists in development of capital, non-recurring and operating budget estimates with respect to tree care and planting, for submission by Directors, Park Superintendents and Golf Course Managers;

Supervises and assists in on-the-job training for park maintenance staff regarding tree and plant care, safety, forest fire-fighting techniques, pesticide use, storage and regulations;

Develops details for the implementation of the state required Right-to-Know and Hazardous Materials Communication programs;

Maintains records, prepares reports, and monitors departmental compliance with the State's Right-to-Know and Hazardous Materials Communication program;

Develops bid specifications for contracts relating to tree and plant care and monitors compliance with the terms of the contract;

Assists in the development of a plan for improved practices in wildlife management in park facilities.

Assists the Director of Park Facilities with various tree, horticultural, and environmental concerns;

Identifies hazardous tree conditions throughout park facilities and assigns tree crew work orders as needed;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word-processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of forestry and forest management; good knowledge of disease and insect identification and the appropriate treatment methods for their control; good knowledge of the appropriate sections of the Environmental Conservation Law; good knowledge of the requirements of the State's Right-to-Know and Hazardous Materials Communication programs; good knowledge of dendrology; good knowledge of the use of fungicides, herbicides and insecticides and proper storage of materials; knowledge of horticulture; knowledge of park maintenance relating to grounds, buildings and equipment; skill in the use of computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, e-mail, and database software; ability to supervise, plan and coordinate the work of maintenance and operational personnel; ability to identify and interpret type and condition of forest stands; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to establish effective working relationships with others; initiative; resourcefulness; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Either (a) a Bachelor's Degree* in Forestry and 3 years of technical forestry experience, or (b) Master's Degree* in Forestry and 2 years of technical forestry experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Applicant must possess New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Pesticide Certification in categories 2 and 3A.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Depending on work assignment, must meet standards of OSHA regulation 1910.134 Respiratory Protection, and will be required to meet Federal, State and local standards with respect to health and safety.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.