

URBAN FORESTRY SPECIALIST

PURPOSE: Urban Forestry Specialists perform various work activities associated with planting, maintaining and removing trees, landscape plants and turf growing on the City of Milwaukee's boulevards and green spaces. Urban Forestry Specialists also function in an emergency capacity to remove broken branches and fallen trees.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- ◆ Prune trees by means of climbing, using a rope and saddle while working at great heights.
- ◆ Plant, maintain and remove trees, shrubs, flowers and turf on all City green spaces.
- ◆ Operate and drive large vehicles such as hi-lifts and 2 ½ ton dump trucks.
- ◆ Operate specialized power equipment and hand equipment, such as mowers, stumpers, chainsaws, chippers, trencher/backhoes, pipe pullers, various types of sprayers and other hand and motorized equipment used in the industry.
- ◆ Construct, repair and maintain concealed irrigation systems.
- ◆ Participate in snow and ice control operations, including the plowing and salting of snow on city streets and clearing of sidewalks and intersections, both mechanically and by hand.
- ◆ Participate in the removal of downed trees and limbs and in the abatement of hazardous conditions caused by wind, snow and ice storms.
- ◆ Record and maintain daily activity reports.

Reasonable accommodations requested by qualified individuals with disabilities will be made in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

1. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
2. Six months of urban forestry experience, with emphasis in arboriculture and including substantial experience climbing trees using rope and saddle.
3. Valid driver's license at time of application and a good driving record. Driver's license number must be listed on application. Driving records will be checked during the selection process and prior to job offer.
4. Class B or higher Commercial Driver's License (CDL) without Air Brakes restriction within six months of appointment and throughout employment.
5. City of Milwaukee residency within six (6) months of appointment and throughout employment.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Ability to climb trees using rope and other tree-climbing equipment.
- Ability to work at heights of 60 feet or more while utilizing the proper safety equipment.
- Ability to assess and perform pruning on young, juvenile, mature and over-mature trees
- Ability to perform a climbing aerial rescue
- Ability to plan and set up rigging and felling practices for topping and removing urban trees
- Ability to use a chain saw safely
- Knowledge of ANSI and OSHA safety regulations applicable to the arboricultural and landscape industry
- Ability to safely operate an aerial lift truck
- Ability to plant, maintain and remove trees, shrubs, flowers, and turf.
- Ability to identify common tree and landscape plant species and signs and symptoms of insects and diseases
- Ability to operate and drive vehicles such as a hi-lift and 2.5-ton dump truck.
- Ability to operate job-related power equipment and hand-held equipment.
- Ability to construct, repair and maintain irrigation systems.
- Ability to safely drive and operate snow plows and salt trucks on city streets.
- Ability to climb a ladder to heights 35 feet or more.
- Ability to transfer objects weighing 50 lbs. or more.
- Ability to document daily activity reports.
- Ability to follow verbal instructions.
- Written communication skills.
- Interpersonal skills.

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NOTE: By law, persons in these positions are required to pass pre-employment drug tests and are subject to random drug and alcohol testing during the course of employment. Candidates must sign a release authorizing the City to receive the results of any drug and alcohol tests conducted by previous employers during the past two years if those tests were required by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

THE CURRENT SALARY RANGE IS (7E): \$41,152.80 - \$45,921.98, complemented by excellent benefits.

THE SELECTION PROCESS will be job related and will consist of written and performance examinations. The performance examination may include an assessment of the following components:

1. Tree climbing using rope and saddle, including pre-climb inspection, rope installation, basic knots, ascension, work positioning and movement within the tree, basic rigging (including controlled limb lowering) and decension.
2. Climbing aerial rescue technique.
3. Felling practices for topping and removing urban trees.
4. Identification of tree and plant species.

DER reserves the right to call only the most qualified candidates to the performance examination. Selection process component weights will be determined by further analysis of the job.

The examination will be held as soon as practical after **March 9, 2012**. Receipt of applications may be discontinued at any time after this date without prior notice, however, recruitment may continue until the needs of the City have been met. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the date, time and place of the examination.

APPLICATION BLANKS may be obtained from our web site (www.milwaukee.gov/jobs), in person or via mail from the City of Milwaukee Department of Employee Relations, Room 706, City Hall, 200 E. Wells St., Milwaukee, WI 53202-3554 or by calling 414-286-3751. Completed applications should be returned to the same address.

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