

COMMUNITY OPERATIONS FORESTER

NATURE OF WORK

This is responsible professional and supervisory work in organizing, implementing and supervising the activities of the Community Forestry Section including planning, evaluating maintenance, removal, planting and establishment of public trees.

Work involves responsibility for planning, scheduling and monitoring daily work of forestry crews; overseeing personnel and equipment involved in community forestry field operations including trimming, removal, planting and establishment of trees on public property. Work also involves the preparation and administration of biennial section operating budget and involvement in preparation and administration of the capital improvement program. Work also involves responsibility for review of potentially hazardous trees on private property in coordination with the City Law Department. An employee in this classification is expected to exercise considerable independent judgment within the framework of departmental policies, rules and regulations. General supervision is received from the Parks Operations Manager with work being evaluated through meetings, reports, observation and overall effectiveness of activities, programs and projects. Supervision is exercised over subordinate regular, seasonal employees, and volunteers.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Interviews, hires, develops training programs, evaluates and handles disciplinary matters of subordinate employees.

Schedules, plans, supervises, participates in and evaluates the daily field operations of the Community Forestry Section related to trimming, removal, planting and establishment of trees on public property, and to activities related to identification and treatment of diseased, damaged, and insect infested trees; determines work priorities and communicates and coordinates assignments to subordinate crew leaders and other staff.

Oversees use of electronic asset management and workflow system to manage public tree inventory and to organize work of the Section. Oversees maintenance of records on street tree planting activities, trimming and removal. Prepares annual report for forestry operations.

Oversees operation and maintenance of equipment. Maintains small tool and equipment inventory; checks equipment for needed repairs and ensures that performance of scheduled preventative maintenance; orders necessary supplies and materials; prepares requests for new vehicles and equipment.

Coordinates response to storm damage and emergency trimming.

Prepares projections and justifications of personnel, equipment and supply needs for budget purposes; monitors expenditures of the Section operating budget. Oversees planning of street tree planting projects of monitors expenditures of designated funding.

Acts as staff resource to the Community Forestry Advisory Board.

Enforces City tree ordinances, subdivision standards and guidelines, design standards and municipal specifications.

Oversees program for testing and licensing of private arborists.

Provides guidance to and interacts with community residents and organizations in the planning and implementation of tree planting and maintenance projects on City property.

Seeks outside funding support. Researches, prepares and administers grants. Researches and assists with establishment of street tree improvement districts.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Thorough knowledge of urban forestry principles and practices, including methods, techniques, equipment, tools and materials used in inspecting, trimming, removing, treating, planting and establishment of urban trees.

Thorough knowledge of tree species common to Lincoln's geographic region.

Thorough knowledge of efficient personnel and equipment utilization techniques and practices.

Thorough knowledge of occupational hazards of all phases of tree maintenance work and property safety precautions necessary to protect employees, the public and property.

Considerable knowledge of integrated pest management and tree-related insect and disease problems and proper control measures.

Ability to plan, assign, and supervise and inspect the work of subordinate personnel and volunteers.

Ability to utilize an electronic asset management system in managing the inventory of public trees, and in assigning, monitoring and reporting work of Section staff.

Ability to develop and deliver training materials and sessions for staff.

Ability to determine the presence of tree diseases structural deficiencies, harmful insects, and to diagnose or access expertise to determine preventative or curative measures for control.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Ability to prepare clear and concise reports and to maintain accurate records.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, co-workers, City officials, community residents, agencies and organizations.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major coursework in forestry, urban forestry, horticulture or related field and four years of experience in urban forestry or commercial arboricultural work; or any combination of training, education and experience that provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid State of Nebraska driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

Possession and maintenance of a valid City of Lincoln First Class Arborist license and a Nebraska Certified Pesticide Applicator's license within six months of appointment.

Possession and maintenance of certification as an Arborist by the International Society of Arboriculture within six months of employment.

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