CITY OF COLUMBUS
invites applications for the position of:

City Forester (Vacancy)

JOE TYPE: Full-time

SALARY: $25.39 - $38.08 Hourly

OPENING DATE: 02/23/15

CLOSING DATE: 04/03/15 11:59 PM

DEFINITION:
Under general direction, is responsible for planning, managing, and coordinating the City's arboriculture and horticulture planting and maintenance program; performs related duties as required.

We are seeking a candidate preferably with a master's degree in Forestry or a closely related field, and with experience supervising and managing tree crews, and also experience working with unions. Experience working in trees is desirable. The candidate should have a good knowledge of GPS, green practices, and vision for further developing the Forestry program. The candidate should have good networking and people skills, and the ability for public speaking as needed. Experience with tree production and planting is also desirable, and an understanding of the protection of native plants, including rare and endangered species, as well as an understanding and knowledge of the management of invasive plants would be beneficial. We seek a well-rounded person with vast knowledge of trees and Forestry, and the role of Forestry into the future. Equipment used includes log trucks, aerial lift trucks, chipper trucks and chippers, stump grinders and other specialized tree equipment. We use modern software to manage tree work, and desire a candidate with good customer service skills.

EXAMPLES OF WORK:
(May not include all of the duties performed.)

Directs and coordinates the activities of all forestry and horticulture crews to ensure that work is completed properly and in a timely manner;

Assigns work and reviews work assignments with Arborists and supervisors to ensure priorities are being observed;

Inspects trees to determine condition and maintenance requirements; creates work orders detailing work to be done; examines plans to protect existing trees;

Performs site surveys for street tree and park plantings; reviews plans and makes recommendations for tree planting needs; issues planting permits;

Interacts with community organizations and citizens to resolve complaints and improve public
relations;

Responds to questions and inquiries related to arboreal and horticultural activities of the Department;

Develops and implements, procedures and standards for the arboriculture and horticulture maintenance programs;

Coordinates City’s emergency response to storm damaged trees;

Coordinates personnel transactions, overtime, vacation schedules and other forms of leave to ensure adequate staffing; recommends personnel for appointments to vacant positions; conducts performance appraisals on employees supervised; recommends disciplinary action;

Assists in the preparation of budgets; monitors and assesses expenditures of operating funds;

Orders tools, supplies and equipment; maintains records and prepares reports;

Participates in and administers the section’s safety program;

Serves as advisor to the section head on activities related to arboriculture and horticulture; keeps the section head informed, in a timely manner, of all situations that could affect the accomplishment of Departmental goals and objectives;

Coordinates the activities of volunteers;

May speak before civic groups and others regarding section’s programs and planting and care of trees and plants.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Possession of a bachelor’s degree in forestry, urban forestry, horticulture or a closely related field and five (5) years of experience planting and caring for trees and plants, tree care, landscaping or nursery operations, including three (3) years of experience supervising employees engaged in these activities.

Substitution(s): Possession of a valid Arborist Certificate issued by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) may substitute for the required education.

Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator’s license.

**TEST/JOB CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Noncompetitive: Recruitment # 15-1530-V1
Employment Type: Full-time Regular

**If you wish to apply in person, please submit an application and any supplementary materials to:**

Deanna Kies
Columbus Recreation and Parks Department
1111 E. Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43205
P: (614)645-2763
E: digerberry-kies@columbus.gov