Service Forester (Job Id 4692)

Location: Watertown
Category: Agriculture

Post Date: 04/14/2015

Description

PLEASE ATTACH THE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS LISTED AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

Agency: South Dakota Department of Agriculture; Division of Resource Conservation and Forestry
Salary/Grade: $15.20 per hour N14
Closing Date: Open Until Filled

This position will be part of the division's Urban and Community Forestry team. The incumbent will evaluate tree health and management issues in towns and communities; provide technical advice to local communities, tree boards, private landowners/homeowners, conservation districts, other agencies and organizations; assist with special urban forestry field projects; participate in meetings, and workshops concerning urban forestry; assist with the community enhancement grants; assist communities to conduct urban tree inventories; coordinate and conduct tree care workshops; respond to sick tree calls; tree insect and disease management; assist communities with establishing and/or maintaining a community forestry program; review and approve agroforestry planting plans. The incumbent may also assist with mountain pine beetle suppression efforts in the Black Hills during the marking season.

This position will entail outdoor work and the ability to walk for extended distances on rough terrain and in inclement weather. The incumbent may be required to assist with mountain pine beetle suppression efforts in the Black Hills.

The incumbent hired for this position will be required to obtain and maintain a South Dakota pesticide application certificate; and possess a driver license.

Normal work hours will be 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

Day travel is frequent and overnight trips will average about 2-3 nights per month; and some air travel may be required to attend meetings or training out-of-state.

The incumbent hired for this position will be required to become an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist once the individual has met the ISA certification requirements. ISA Certification is not a requirement of hiring but will need to be obtained after being hired.

If you possess a National Career Readiness Certificate, please submit the certificate with your application. For more information on how to acquire a National Career Readiness Certificate contact a South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation Local Office.

The Ideal Candidate Will Have:

A bachelor's of science degree in forestry, urban forestry, arboriculture or a related natural resources profession; and experience may be substituted for education and experience if that experience has prepared the candidate to successfully carry out the duties of this position as outlined in the introductory statement is preferred.

Knowledge of:
- urban and community forestry programs;
- project design and management;
- dendrology;
- arboriculture;
- biology;
- biometrics and botany;
- forest mensuration;
- geographic information systems (ArcGIS);
- horticulture, hydrology, plant physiology, and silviculture;
- federal and state forestry laws and regulations, and department policies and procedures;
- identification of tree species and diseases, correct planting and pruning techniques, and care of trees;
- tree biology, soil management, tree protection, tree risk management;
- agroforestry and forest certification programs.

Skill to:
- use a variety of forestry tools and equipment;
- use: clinometers, diameter tapes, prisms, increment borers, data recorders, hypsometers, global positioning systems.

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- use: clinometers, diameter tapes, prisms, increment borers, data recorders, hypsometers, global positioning systems.
systems to collect and the skill to interpret these data.

Ability to:
• analyze extensive resource data and draw logical conclusions from that data;
• drive a 4-wheel drive truck in a variety of weather conditions;
• use forestry tools for measuring purposes;
• conduct literature and technical reference searches;
• conduct soil survey research;
• use and interpret topographic maps;
• use Microsoft Office products: Word, Outlook, Access, Excel, Publisher, PowerPoint;
• use digital graphic software, mapping programs, and GPS information uploading, downloading, and interpretation;
• write professional and technical reports that can be understood by both professional and lay persons;
• deal tactfully with others;
• communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
• work independently with minimal supervision, or with a group in a team setting;
• use forestry tools: clinometer, hypsometer, biltmore stick, measuring wheel, compass, GPS, data recorders;
• establish and maintain working relationships with co-workers and the public;
• keep records;
• diagnose tree health problems and determine the appropriate action to address tree planting and tree care needs.

Additional Requirements: To be considered, attach your responses to the questions below. Your responses must be clear, concise, and numbered.

The supplemental questionnaire provides information and work experience specific to this job. Therefore, do not substitute a resume for completion of these questions. You may provide your responses to each question on separate pieces of paper. Each page of your answers should contain your name and the question number.

Provide details for any work experience (paid or unpaid) and training that you have related to each question. Limit your answer to each question to no more than one (1) page. If there are several parts to a question, answer each part separately. Number your answers to agree with the questions. Submit the answers with your application.

All applicants are required to comply with the instructions on this form to be considered for the position. Your application will not be considered if it is incomplete.

1. Employees in this position meet with private individuals, local city governments, federal agencies, the media and others to share or disseminate forestry related information. Describe your experience communicating, establishing working relationships and/or coordinating with various agencies, groups or individuals.

2. Describe any experience and training you have in evaluating tree management issues within towns and communities.

3. This position requires assisting communities with grant applications and grant management. Please summarize your experience in grant preparation and management.

4. Describe your experience in training or educating persons in technical issues. Describe your audience and level of responsibility.

5. Describe your experience working with city governments and community tree boards.

6. Describe your experience in diagnosing urban tree health problems and determining an appropriate course of action.

7. This position will be part of team that works together to promote urban forestry on a statewide basis. Please provide your thoughts on what being a good team member means to you.

8. Describe your experience in working or coordinating with other agencies to assure compliance or consistency with their regulations. Please describe: a) The specific agencies you have worked or coordinated with; b) the nature of the rules or regulations involved; and c) your role or level of responsibility for the coordination.

VETERANS’ PREFERENCE ELIGIBLE

Apply at: http://bhr.sd.gov/workforus
South Dakota Bureau of Human Resources
500 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Telephone: 605.773.3148 Fax: 605.773.4344
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