

Civil Division: Oneida County Government  
Jurisdictional Class: Competitive  
EEO Category: Professionals  
Revised: 04/20/11

## **FORESTER**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** An employee in this class performs technical and administrative work in tree care and maintenance activities. The work of this class requires discretion and independent judgment based upon a comprehensive knowledge of professional forestry principles and practices. Assignments are received from the Commissioner of Public Works, who reviews the work through conferences and discussion of results obtained for adherence to departmental policy. Supervision is exercised over the work of contractors carrying out the Division's plans. The incumbent performs related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative Only)

Furnishes general planning, administration and supervision of the Forestry Division;  
Prepares budgets, and adjusts and implements programs;  
Coordinates planting, pruning and removal of trees;  
Conducts necessary public education programs regarding trees and their care;  
Represents Forestry Division on various committees regarding trees and aesthetics;  
Makes periodical inspections of trees;  
Climbs trees and checks for Dutch Elm disease;  
Determines the pruning required and whether the tree should be removed;  
Marks trees for removal;  
Observes tree removal activities to ensure compliance with safety standards;  
Keeps records and makes reports of tree removal activities.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Thorough knowledge of plant biology and the common and botanical names of trees in New York or those which may be transplanted to New York; good knowledge of tree maintenance, preservation and removal techniques and procedures, including pruning, spraying, treating, bracing, boxing, moving, fertilizing, and soil planting requirements; good knowledge of insects, parasites and diseases which attack trees, and the composition and uses of insecticides, fungicides and disinfectants for their control; ability to plan, organize and direct the work of contractors; ability to prepare activity reports, job cost estimates and preliminary budget estimates.

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**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Either:

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in horticulture, forestry, agronomy or a closely related field, **AND** one (1) year of experience in forestry work; **OR**
- (B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's Degree in horticulture, forestry, agronomy or a closely related field, **AND** three (3) years of experience in forestry work.

**NOTE:** Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience as defined in (A) above will be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** Eligibility for an appropriate level New York State Driver's License at the time of application. Possession of a valid license at time of appointment. This license must be maintained throughout appointment.