

Community Forester

Position Overview

The Community Forester promotes the environmental, socioeconomic, and aesthetic values of trees and forests to communities in Northeast Ohio by encouraging scientifically based urban forest and arboricultural decisions and practices. He/She advocates for planting and caring for trees in the urban environment, and fosters and participates in partnerships among public and private interests that protect, conserve, and nurture trees in their communities.

The Community Forester also plays a lead role in establishing Holden as a focal point for municipalities, institutions, organizations, and individuals to come for information, ideas, and activities that promote improved tree health and enhanced beauty and livability of Northeast Ohio communities. He/She reports to the Director of Education and Information Services.

Duties

The Community Forester conducts outreach and on-site activities selected to maximize Holden's service to the community. The following are examples of potential activities.

Outreach (80%)

- Serve as a clearinghouse of existing information for public and professional audiences concerned with woody plants in urban and suburban communities
- Develop informational and educational materials concerning the value, planting, and care of trees in urban settings
- Advocate awareness of the value of trees in an urban landscape and sustainable forest management through field tours, workshops, seminars, conferences, demonstrations of sustainable forest management, media releases, and contacts with municipalities and government officials
- Provide communities with technical assistance regarding street tree surveys, tree maintenance, tree planting, green space management, and tree ordinances
- Make communities aware of and assist them in applying for grants, including collaborations with Holden
- Determine suitable tree species for planting in urban environments; advise towns on tree selection; and develop model contracts for purchase and planting of trees
- Lead Holden's Arbor Day activities in northeast Ohio
- Lead active collaborations with relevant professional organizations and government agencies, and take an active role with those most important to Holden
- Lead Holden's outreach in forest management for small parcel landowners and managers

On-site programs (20%)

- Lead and coordinate input and staffing to Holden's tree information center and answer the public's questions about trees and related subjects
- Lead the management aspects of a demonstration woodland and provide input to its programs and management
- Contribute to interpretive projects, teaching, and writing for the *Leaves* magazine and website as needed
- Participate in developing existing and new garden projects such as the Home Demonstration Garden and the Urban Tree Display

Training and Experience:

- Master's degree in forestry, horticulture, biology, botany, landscape architecture, or closely related field
- Professional experience in urban and community forestry

- Strong verbal and written communication skills along with a proven record of public presentation activities
- Course work in communications and/or media experience
- An outgoing personality energized by public contact
- Ability to assimilate and translate into common language a considerable body of technical information about trees and related subjects, including the latest research findings.

Evening and weekend hours as needed for presentations, programs, and appointments

Apply:

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Qualified applicants should submit a resumé with salary requirements to: resumes@holdenarb.org or on line at <https://home.eease.com/recruit/?id=1142811>