WATERSHED FORESTER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The incumbent performs forestry work and fish and wildlife research and management projects in a natural setting. This is professional work involving the development, harvest and protection of timber stands, game and fish enhancement and wildlife management and research. It includes a substantial amount of time out of doors in the performance of duties. The work is performed under the general supervision of the Watershed Manager with considerable leeway permitted for the independent carrying out of the details of assignment and projects. Direct supervision may be exercised over the work of a small technical staff and/or labor force; does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES (Illustrative only)

- Plans and supervises reforestation projects;
- Supervises and participates in the selection and marking for timber harvesting and development of other forest products;
- Plans and supervises programs of logging contracts, including data preparation for contract bidding, and overseeing logging operations;
- Conducts research studies and surveys to sight and problems affecting forest areas and wildlife, e.g., erosion, runoff, poor habitat, fish and wildlife distribution, abundance and fluctuation;
- Prepares reports on the findings of surveys and investigations and makes recommendations as to necessary actions;
- Supervises and participates in programs for the sale of forest products;
- Supervises and participates in programs for the recreational use of city-owned forest and water areas by the general public, including the development of rules and regulations regarding their use;
- Cruises and maps timber lands;
- Develops and participates in programs of game and fish enhancement, habitat enhancement and good wildlife conservation practices;
- Plans and directs programs of conservation education, little removal, road and maintenance repair, construction and maintenance repair, construction and maintenance of nature trails;
- Performs public contact work with the general public and neighboring property owners to promote good forest management and fish wildlife conservation practices;
- Advises on matters of urban forestry areas and projects;
- May assist law enforcement officials in the enforcement of hunting and fishing laws on the watershed areas;
- May occasionally organize and supervise crews on forest fire suppression and engage in the promotion of forest fire prevention activities.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Good knowledge of best management practices pertaining to integrated pesticide management;
- Good knowledge of ESRI GIS software and Microsoft Office Suite;
- Good knowledge of the principles and practices of forest management, protection and use of forest lands;
- working knowledge of the principles and practices of fish and wildlife habitat management and research work;
- skill in the use of forestry equipment; ability to use and maintain fish and wildlife management equipment;
- ability to plan and supervise the work of others;
- ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with others and the public;
- ability to understand and carry out moderately complex written and oral instruction;
- willingness to work outdoors;
- tact
- courtesy
- dependability;
- physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either

A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four (4) year college or university with a Bachelor's Degree, with major work in Forestry, Forest Management, Conservation, Natural Resources Management, or in Biological Science with emphasis on fisheries and wildlife and natural resources management (at least 15 semester credit hours) and one (1) year of professional experience in Forest Conservation or Natural Resources Management:

B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two (2) year college or university with an Associate's Degree, with major work in Forestry, Forest Management, Conservation, Natural Resources Management, or in Biological Science with emphasis on fisheries and wildlife and natural resources management (at least 15 semester credit hours) and three (3) years of professional experience in Forest Conservation or Natural Resources Management:

C. Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency degree and five (5) years of responsible full time professional experience in Forest Conservation or Natural Resources Management;

D. Any equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) through (C) above.

NOTE:

College study (outside of the required level) may be substituted for experience on a year to year basis with 30 semester credit hours in the appropriate field equivalent to one (1) year experience.

* Submission of College Transcript is required if credit hours equivalency claimed.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A valid New York State driver's license is required at time of appointment and for the duration of employment.
- Must obtain a United States Coast Guard Boating Safety course certification within one (1) year of appointment.
- Must obtain a New York State Pesticide Applicator's License within two (2) years of appointment.