CLASS TITLE: **City Forester**

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS: Under immediate supervision, the class performs entry level urban forestry work in the area of landscape beautification; and performs related duties as required.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Assists in the formulation and implementation of plans for the planting, maintenance and removal of plant materials; coordinates and monitors activities of landscaping contractors ensuring work conforms to specifications and plant materials meet City quality standards; visits nurseries and selects trees for mass planting projects throughout the City; assists in conducting field surveys to inspect trees and other plant material to determine quality, rate of growth and insect and disease damage and recommends treatment plans to correct problems identified; estimates the extent and cost of injuries to trees subjected to environmental damage and submits to supervisor for inclusion in the bureau’s budget; reviews construction and building plans for compliance with the City’s Landscape Ordinance; coordinates and monitors the activities of volunteer tree-planting organizations; and assists in the collection and processing of plant samples for insect and disease control programs.

RELATED DUTIES: Enforces the municipal code as it relates to the protection of City trees; and provides professional horticultural and landscape advice to citizens, departments and agencies.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Training and Experience. Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor’s degree in Forestry or a directly related field.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skill. Working knowledge of trees, shrubbery and other plant materials used in landscape beautification. Some knowledge of current urban forestry practices and procedures. Some knowledge of current municipal horticultural and environmental issues, polices and programs. Some knowledge of horticultural research and analysis methods and techniques.

Ability to inspect construction plans for compliance with the City’s landscape ordinance. Ability to conduct surveys on urban forestry and horticultural issues. Ability to work with the public and outside agencies on horticultural and landscape programs and activities.

Some skill in the application of horticultural and urban forestry procedures. Good analytical
skills. Good math skills. Good research skills. Good oral and written communication skills. Good human relations skills.

Working Conditions. Inside: General office environment. Outside: May be exposed to hazardous conditions. Occasional exposure to inclement weather and extreme temperatures.


NOTE: While the list of essential duties is intended to be as inclusive as possible, there may be other duties which are essential to particular positions within the class.

June, 2002
City of Chicago
Department of Personnel