



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Village Forester

2025 Salary Range: \$84,712 to \$112,409

Classification: Full-Time

FLSA: Non-Exempt

Additional benefits (see below)

The Village of Wilmette is seeking to fill the full-time position of Village Forester in the Engineering & Public Works Department (711 Laramie Avenue). The Forestry Division is comprised of two Foresters who are responsible for maintaining approximately 17,500 trees on public property through programs of systematic pruning, removal, planting, tree preservation, disease control and care for sick and damaged trees. Wilmette earned its 41st Tree City USA recognition for 2024 and has received a total of 18 Growth Awards from the Arbor Day Foundation.

General Responsibilities

Under the general direction of the Street Superintendent, the Village Forester will be responsible for the management and maintenance of trees located at public facilities, and public right-of-ways. The Village Forester will manage various forestry maintenance contracts related to tree pruning, tree removals, tree plantings and parkway restoration. Responsibilities include responding to resident service requests, maintaining the Village's tree inventory and database, conducting field inspections, providing information to residents and regulatory agencies, and ensuring compliance with Village Code. Also, the Village Forester will assist with snow and ice control operations, coordinate for the Arbor Day Program, complete the annual Tree City USA application, apply for grant funding opportunities, and various other forestry-related duties. This position requires availability for emergency response (over-time) outside of normal working hours, which includes participation in the On-Call Specialist program.

Position Requirements

The successful candidate will be expected to have a bachelor's degree in urban forestry, Horticulture, Natural Science, Landscape Architecture or related field with a minimum of three years of experience related to parkway tree management; or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience will be considered. Must be an ISA Certified Arborist and possess a State of Illinois Public Applicator Pesticide license; or obtain certification and licensure within six months of employment. In addition, the candidate must have a CDL class B License with both air brake and tanker endorsements or obtain a CDL with endorsements within six months of employment.

The successful candidate must possess a thorough understanding of Urban Forestry and arboricultural principles and techniques, including parkway tree maintenance and corresponding materials, tools, equipment, and occupational hazards. Specifically, the individual must have knowledge of proper tree identification, plant health care principles, tree preservation, insects and diseases and their control; best management practices for tree pruning, removal and tree planting; safety practices as they related to urban forestry operations; sufficient skills in hazardous tree evaluation and computerized tree inventory software programs.

The successful candidate must possess strong interpersonal communication skills including verbal and non-verbal communications and develop positive working relationships with supervisors, co-workers, contractors and the general public. Must be proficient in Microsoft Office products including Outlook, SharePoint, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Also, have the ability to learn the Village's Enterprise Resources Planning and Customer Relationship Management Systems (Tyler Technology software programs) to include the Village's tree inventory software (Davey TreeKeeper), and GIS.

Compensation and Benefits

The 2025 annual salary is \$84,712 to \$112,409 with a starting salary DOQ. The Village offers an excellent benefits package that includes participation in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF), medical, dental and vision coverage, life insurance, and voluntary participation in a deferred compensation program (457 plan), and paid time off; a summary of compensation and benefits can be viewed on the Village's webpage at: [Human Resources | Wilmette, IL](#)

Selection Process

Candidates should be prepared to take both a written and an in-field exam/skills test related to tasks that may be encountered on the job. The successful candidate will undergo a pre-employment physical examination that includes a back evaluation, drug and alcohol tests, audio and vision screenings, background investigation, reference checks, and a driver's license records verification with the Secretary of State's Office.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should complete an online employment application found on the Village's Self Service Employment Opportunities webpage at <https://wilmette.munisselfservice.com/ess> and attach your resume and cover letter. Employment applications will be reviewed as they are received. Paper submissions will not be accepted. The position remains open until it is filled.

The Village of Wilmette is committed to compliance of the Americans with Disabilities Act and is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are critical to the Village's success. The Village seeks to recruit the most talented individuals from a diverse candidate pool and strongly encourages applications to be submitted from all genders, all races, all sexual orientations, people with disabilities, and Military Veterans.