URBAN FORESTER – Openlands

Openlands is seeking a highly motivated and energetic person to head its Urban Forestry program. Knowledge of urban forestry and ability to work well with volunteers are essential. A degree in forestry and/or five years of non-profit experience in this field are desired. A successful applicant should be a certified arborist.

Openlands: Who We Are
Founded in 1963 in Chicago, Openlands is among the first non-profit organizations nationally to focus on all aspects of land conservation in a metropolitan region. Its work involves advocacy, urban forestry, support of community-based gardens, building school gardens, trail planning, ecological restoration and land acquisition for parks and conservation. To learn more, please visit www.openlands.org.

Job Description
As part of the Community Greening team, the Urban Forester will:

- Lead an effort to shape, develop and manage an ambitious new tree planting program in Chicago
- Work actively with Openlands’ senior leadership to raise funds for the Urban Forestry program and Openlands in general
- Represent Openlands in a new multi-partner Regional Forest Initiative for the Chicago metropolitan area that may result in new suburban TreeKeeper course locations and establishment of new suburban TreeKeeper advocacy groups
- Coordinate the twice-yearly seven-week TreeKeeper volunteer training course
- Support and coordinate scheduling of the year-round work days led by trained TreeKeeper volunteers on public lands in Chicago
- Serve as Openlands’ spokesperson on local, state and federal policy issues related to urban forest advocacy

Qualifications

- Knowledge of basic tree physiology, tree species, and urban tree environments;
- Formal training in forestry, certified arborist, and/or a minimum of five-years’ experience in urban forest management with a public agency or non-profit;
- Experience working with volunteers;
- Willingness to work on weekends as needed for volunteer events;
- Experience with grant writing;
- Poise in making public presentations and strong oral and written communication skills
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications
- Access to a personal vehicle

Compensation
Salary is commensurate with experience. Competitive benefits include health coverage, a 403(b) retirement plan, paid holidays, personal days, sick days and vacation time.

To Apply
Email Glenda Daniel and include a resume and references.
Glenda Daniel, Associate Director, gdaniel@openlands.org