

URBAN FORESTRY

Why urban forestry?

Urban trees and green spaces are important. They are a key aspect of livable cities that support both people and ecosystems. Urban forestry careers bridge concern for nature with a more urban lifestyle.

Also known as green infrastructure, trees and plants in urban environments have many conservation benefits, including:

- Mitigating climate change
- Promoting biodiversity
- Improving air quality

They also provide much-needed benefits specific to urban spaces, such as:

- Habitat for native species
- Lessening the urban heat island effect
- Reducing stress and improving mental health, reduce stress
- Provide shade and shelter
- Bringing nature into communities across the economic spectrum

What is the career outlook for urban forestry jobs?

- Demand for urban forestry is projected to grow at an average rate. Expansion of cities is one reason for this growth.
- Work maintaining defensible wildfire landscapes is expected to grow as insurance companies impose more requirements on property owners.
- Some careers in sciences related to urban forestry are expected to have higher than average growth.

Where do urban foresters work?

- Municipalities
- Consulting firms
- Nonprofits
- State agencies
- Researchers
- Contractors
- Or, even start your own business!

What skills did you gain through UCC that would apply to urban forestry?

- Chainsaw skills
- GIS mapping
- Plant identification
- Data analysis and planning
- Chipper and brush cutter experience

Type of Job	Job Description	Education	2024 Median Pay
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians	Environmental science and protection technicians monitor the environment and investigate sources of pollution and contamination, including those affecting public health.	Associate's degree	\$49,490
Grounds Maintenance Workers	Environmental science and protection technicians monitor the environment and investigate sources of pollution and contamination, including those affecting public health.	Entry Level	\$38,470
Forest and Conservation Workers	Forest and conservation workers perform physical labor to improve the quality of natural areas such as forests, rangelands, and wetlands.	High school diploma or equivalent	\$43,680
Environmental Science and Protection Technicians	Environmental science and protection technicians monitor the environment and investigate sources of pollution and contamination, including those affecting public health.	Associate's degree	\$49,490
Conservation Scientists and Foresters	Conservation scientists and foresters manage the land quality of forests, parks, rangelands, and other natural resources.	Bachelor's degree	\$69,060
Fire Inspectors	Fire inspectors detect fire hazards, recommend prevention measures, ensure compliance with state and local fire regulations, and investigate causes of fires.	Varies	\$75,480
Landscape Architects	Landscape architects design parks and other outdoor spaces.	Bachelor's degree	\$79,660
Environmental Scientists and Specialists	Environmental scientists and specialists conduct research or investigations to protect the environment or human health.	Bachelor's degree	\$80,060
Urban and Regional Planners	Urban and regional planners develop comprehensive plans and programs for use of land and physical facilities in cities, counties, metropolitan areas, and other jurisdictions.	Master's degree	\$83,720

Potential Employers in Utah:

- **Apex Tree Professionals (Cedar City)**
 - Wildfire prevention and mitigation
 - Tree removal and health assessments
- **APEX Fire Preparedness (Northern Utah)**
 - Creating defensible spaces
 - Home hardening & Habitat preservation
- **Davey Tree Experts (Nationwide)**
 - Residential tree care
 - Ecology and Natural Resource Consulting
- **Salt Lake City Public Lands Department**
 - Urban Forestry
 - Trails and Natural Lands
- **Utah DNR-FFSL**
 - Wildland Fire Operations
 - 2026 applications will open in December
 - Seasonal Natural Resources Positions

