

Forester

Description

A forester is a professional in charge of caring for, planting and managing trees or forests. They are involved in a range of activities including restoration, conservation, timber harvest and managing protected wooded areas. They also conduct technical forestry work including timber marking, volume estimation and sale of forest products.

Education/Training Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in forest management, natural resources, fisheries, wildlife and conservation, or a related field (commonly required)

Recommended High School Coursework

- Agriculture Education
- Biology
- Computer Skills
- Horticulture
- Mathematics
- Natural Resources

Common Responsibilities

- Conduct technical forestry work including: timber marking, volume estimation and sale of forest products
- Establish and measure permanent forest sample plots
- Prepare contracts for harvesting forest products and other contract services
- Mark and investigate trees that are ready to be harvested
- Interpret aerial photographs of plots
- Coordinate and conduct felled-tree volume studies
- Evaluate areas to be burned prior to and after burning
- Use forest measurement instruments and electronics
- Perform pre-inspection prior to tree-trimming work
- Assist in wildfire prevention
- Respond to wildfire emergencies

Typical Employers

Foresters work for timber companies as well as state parks and government agencies. Some foresters are self-employed.

Additional Resources

[Association of Consulting Foresters](#)
[National Association of State Foresters](#)
[Pennsylvania Forestry Association](#)
[Society of American Foresters](#)