

Assistant Professor
Urban Forestry Extension Specialist
Utah State University
Department of Wildland Resources and USU Extension



S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney
College of Natural Resources
UtahStateUniversity



The Department of Wildland Resources (WILD) in the S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources (QCNR) at Utah State University (USU) seeks applicants for an **Assistant Professor** to serve as the **Extension Specialist in Urban Forestry for Utah**. The position will be based on the main USU campus in Logan, Utah, and will also have access to the USU Extension Office at the USU Botanical Center in Kaysville, Utah, which houses Utah's largest Arboretum. The anticipated (but negotiable) start date is August 1, 2024. The emphasis for the position is 90% Extension, 10% Service.

The position may be filled as:

- 1) A **tenure-track Assistant Professor** for a fiscal year reduced FTE (0.83 FTE or 10 months) position, with the successful candidate encouraged to write grants to support an additional 0.17 FTE. This position would require a PhD. Candidates in a PhD program who are ABD may be hired at the rank of Instructor if conferral of degree is expected within the year.
- 2) A **Professional Practice Assistant Professor** at 1.0 FTE. This position would require a M.S. degree and extensive professional work experience related to urban forestry.

In either appointment, the salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience, and is anticipated to be between \$60,000 and \$80,000. A basic annual operations budget will also be provided and can be augmented through grantwriting. Key areas of expertise will include urban and wildland-urban interface forestry, arboriculture, disease and risk management, water-wise landscaping, greenspace management, and horticulture. We anticipate that the person in this position may also be involved in urban planning efforts which consider broad social access to tree cover and carbon sequestration issues related to urban forestry. The incumbent will be encouraged to collaborate with research and Extension faculty in the Departments of Wildland Resources (particularly extension specialists in forestry and wildland fire) and Environment and Society in QCNR and the Department of

Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. The incumbent will coordinate with local, state, and federal agencies to identify and implement programs such as Utah Forestry Fire and State Lands urban forestry initiatives, Utah Division of Water Resources conservation programs, U. S. Forest Service's Urban and Community Forest Program, and other programs that address urban climate change issues, and the inclusion of under-served communities through urban planning.

Minimum Qualifications

1. PhD or MS degree in forestry, horticulture, or related field (see stipulations above for tenure-track vs professional practice positions).
2. Expertise in urban trees, including knowledge of tree care, tree diseases, and water-wise planting strategies.
3. Demonstrated ability to work effectively in a team setting with other professionals in the public and private sectors.
4. Excellent oral and written English communication skills.
5. Experience in organizing, developing, and delivering public presentations, events, and other informational and educational activities.
6. Valid driver license and the ability to travel extensively to statewide locations.

Preferred Qualifications

1. PhD degree in forestry, horticulture, or related field.
2. Experience with outreach program development, delivery, and impact assessment related to urban forestry.
3. Participation in professional societies relevant to urban forestry (e.g. the International Society of Arboriculture or Society of American Foresters).
4. Experience in wildland-urban interface issues, including fire risk.
5. Basic knowledge of western United States forest management, urban planning, and related issues.
6. Experience working with diverse populations of learners and stakeholders.
7. Ability to communicate in Spanish.
8. Experience working with land-grant university Extension programs.
9. Outreach experience working with utility companies, state agencies, municipalities, or commercial tree care companies.
10. Demonstrated ability to develop an externally-funded extension program meeting the needs of stakeholders (e.g. landowners, and county-, state- and federal-level agencies).

Position Duties

Extension Development and Delivery – 90%

- Function as a resource for other Extension personnel and statewide stakeholders for information and recommendations related to urban community forestry, wildland-urban interface issues, arboriculture, greenspace development, water-wise landscaping, and horticulture.
- Design, develop and deliver educational programming to assist natural resource agency personnel, city and state managers, and local communities.
- Pursue external funding in support of Extension programs.
- Develop new core curriculum materials for use by other Extension Agents and Specialists. Serve as a mentor for Extension Agents and Specialists and participate fully in Extension programs.
- Conduct and publish Extension-related research.

- Develop a positive working relationship with USU research faculty, particularly those that work with community development, urban planning, and arboriculture, and horticulture. Track trends, initiatives, and developments in urban forestry.
- Provide impact/outcome statement reports adhering to Extension criteria.
- Contribute to USU's mission of equity, inclusion, and diversity.

Service – 10%

- Participate with local, state, and federal resource agencies and NGOs on advisory councils and committees.
- Serve on Department, College, and University committees.
- Represent the urban forestry discipline within the University.
- Participate in professional and scientific organizations.
- Contribute to a welcoming and inclusive workplace environment.

Application

All application materials must be submitted electronically through the USU Human Resources 'jobs' website (<https://jobs.usu.edu>; position #2023-7216). We request a cover letter, a complete CV, and names and e-mail addresses of three professional references. The position is open until filled, but application review will begin **Monday, February 5, 2024**. Potential applicants with specific questions are welcome to contact the search committee chair, Dr. Nicki Frey, nicki.frey@usu.edu.

About the USU Botanical Center

Located in Kaysville, Utah, along the Wasatch Front, the Utah State University Botanical Center guides the conservation and wise use of plant, water, and energy resources through research-based educational experiences, demonstrations, and technology (<https://extension.usu.edu/botanicalcenter/>). The USU Botanical Center is the result of a partnership between Utah State University, public agencies, individuals, civic groups, businesses, and foundations. The USU Botanical Center features an urban fishery, walking and biking trails, wetland areas that support birds and other wildlife, a volunteer-tended garden that provides fresh produce to local food banks, a seasonal farmers market and classes, workshops, educational field trips and other events. The Center offers a farmer's market from July through September which features local produce, gourmet foods, and artisans.

Department/College/Logan Highlights:

The Quinney College of Natural Resources is a welcoming, socially active community of faculty, students, and staff, and houses the Wildland Resources, Environment and Society, and Watershed Sciences Departments. Wildland Resources is the largest of the three departments and is an internationally renowned center of applied ecological research. Award-winning faculty teach courses that prepare students for professional careers in many natural resource fields, including programs accredited by the Society of American Foresters and the Society for Range Management and aligned with the Society of Ecological Restoration. Extension programs in Wildland Resources serve to connect research with a range of stakeholders, and our Extension faculty are vibrant and highly valued part of our academic community. Located in Logan, USU offers the amenities of a college town within the Cache Valley metropolitan zone of over 155,000 people. The USU main campus is a 90-minute drive to Salt Lake City, positioned along the scenic Wasatch Mountains and Bear River Range. Logan has a bonanza of outdoor activities within minutes of campus and is within a day's drive of seven national parks.

