FOREST HEALTH SPECIALIST

FOREST HEALTH SPECIALISTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING HEALTHY FORESTS AND PROTECTING, MANAGING, AND PROMOTING FOREST RESOURCES.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Offer diagnostics and support to forestry professionals and landowners related to tree health.
- Educate professionals and the general public on the management of abiotic and biotic stressors; specifically insects, diseases, and invasive plants.
- Research threats posed by insects and disease-causing organisms.
- Survey invasive species, monitor populations, and take action when forest resources are threatened.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- Bachelors degree and Masters preferably with a major in forestry
- Related work experience in forestry

AVERAGE SALARY

- NC Average $56,941 (reported by State of NC )

SKILLS NEEDED

- Curious about the natural world.
- Enjoy working outdoors.
- Approachable and relatable. Able to connect with landowners and the general public.

WHY FORESTRY?

"I GREW UP HIKING, CAMPING AND WAS IN 4-H IN HIGH SCHOOL. I HAVE ALWAYS LIKED INSECTS. IN FORESTRY I CAN WORK IN A SUBJECT I LOVE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE."

ADVICE

"TRY TO MAKE CONTACTS IN THE FIELD. YOUR NETWORK CAN OPEN DOORS AND STEER YOU TOWARD JOB OPPORTUNITIES."

photos by K. Oten