

# STEVEN R. COTHREL

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## QUALIFICATIONS

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I am an experienced and passionate Parks & Recreation professional, and I have worked for colleges and universities, municipalities, and state government in a variety of roles. I also have extensive experience working with civic and community groups, foundations, grants, city and regional planners, engineers, contractors, consultants, coaches, elected officials, and schools. I am a strong proponent of partnerships, professionalism, and community service, as reflected in my extensive leadership experience within professional associations, public sector boards and commissions, and non-profit organizations. My expertise in operations, budgets, human resources, planning, capital construction, writing, public speaking, and leadership enables me to guide teams and organizations to continual improvement and success.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS AND FORESTRY**  
City of Upper Arlington Department of Parks & Recreation

APRIL 1996-PRESENT  
Upper Arlington, Ohio

Responsible for planning, managing, and evaluating a wide variety of programming and services for the Division of Parks and Forestry and Department of Parks & Recreation, including:

- constructing, renovating, and maintaining an array of park shelters, pathways, and facilities;
- designing, installing, and maintaining unique playgrounds;
- building, renovating, and maintaining tennis courts, sports fields, baseball/softball diamonds, sand volleyball courts, shuffleboard courts and other athletic facilities;
- designing and maintaining park and facility landscapes and community gateways, mowing and managing park trees and furnishings;
- reviewing and approving landscape plans for commercial developments and subdivisions in the City;
- supervising the planting, maintenance, and removal of street trees, as well as inspecting trees, notifying residents, maintaining a street tree inventory and detailed records, and coordinating sidewalk repairs;
- providing support to many special events such as holiday festivals, concerts, exhibits, programs, classes, and parades;
- budgeting for personnel, operations, capital equipment, and capital improvements that total well over \$1 million per year;
- obtaining grants, sponsorships, and foundation support for a wide array of projects;
- creating specifications and plans; hiring and supervising dozens of contractors/consultants annually as well as seasonal and permanent staff;
- providing organizational and technical support to the City Tree Commission, and to other Departments, boards, commissions, and the City Council as needed; and
- working within all levels of city government and with countless organizations, volunteers, and non-profits to ensure effective and efficient delivery of premium City services.

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR**  
Columbus State Community College

SEPTEMBER 1994-DECEMBER 2003  
Columbus, Ohio

- Planning and teaching a comprehensive landscape arboriculture course within the Landscape Design Program at a college of more than 20,000 students.

**CITY FORESTER**  
City of Upper Arlington

JULY 1989-MARCH 1996  
Upper Arlington, Ohio

- Created and managed a municipal Urban Forestry Division that provided comprehensive urban forestry services for a city of 34,000 residents utilizing a successful combination of staff, volunteers, and contractors.

**URBAN FORESTER**  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry

FEBRUARY 1986- JULY 1989  
Columbus, Ohio

- Provided organizational and technical urban forestry assistance to municipalities, organizations, and individuals throughout central Ohio. Advised Councils and administrators, and helped organize commissions, write ordinances, perform inventories, and manage park vegetation and street trees for dozens of communities.

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**  
University of New Hampshire

1985-1986  
Durham, New Hampshire

**ARBORIST**  
City of Wooster

1985  
Wooster, Ohio

**RESEARCH & TEACHING ASSISTANT**  
The Ohio State University

1983-1985  
Columbus and Wooster, Ohio

**AGRICULTURAL IPM SCOUT**  
The Ohio State University Cooperative Extension Service

1983  
Newark, Ohio

**PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER**  
Toledo Area Metroparks

SUMMERS, 1980, 1981, 1982  
Toledo, Ohio

## **EDUCATION**

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**MASTER OF SCIENCE, 1985**

*The Ohio State University, School of Natural Resources, College of Agriculture, Columbus, Ohio*

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CUM LAUDE, 1983**

*The Ohio State University, School of Natural Resources, College of Agriculture, Columbus, Ohio*

## **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSES**

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- Licensed Pesticide Applicator, Ohio Department of Agriculture (#19237)
- Certified Arborist, International Society of Arboriculture & Certified Municipal Specialist (#OH-0234 AM)
- Certified Playground Safety Inspector, National Recreation and Parks Association (#3690-1007 - currently expired)

## **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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- Village of Baltimore Parks & Recreation Board, Chair, 2010-present
- Village of Baltimore Tree Commission, Vice-Chair, 2010-present
- Urban Forestry Foundation, founding Trustee/Treasurer, 2008-present
- Liberty Union High School, varsity soccer stadium announcer, 2007-2014
- Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission & Ohio Public Works Commission, Natural Resources Assistance Council member (Clean Ohio Grants program), 2007-present
- Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee, Treasurer, Secretary, or Vice-Chair, 2007-present
- American Public Works Association, member, 2004-present
- Ohio Parks and Recreation Association, member, 1996-present
- Liberty Union Youth Soccer Association, Coach, 1998-2004
- Liberty Union Youth Basketball Association, Coach, 1999-2002
- Franklin County Greenways Steering Committee, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Member, 1995-2000
- Society of Municipal Arborists
  - International President, 2002-2003
  - Executive Board, 1995-2004
  - Chair or member of many committees
  - Received Award of Achievement, 2005; Awarded Life Membership 2007
- International Society of Arboriculture and Ohio Chapter
  - Chair, Municipal Arborists Committee, 1992-96
  - Board of Directors, 1993-94
  - Program Committee, 1992-96
- Municipal Arborists and Urban Foresters Society, Board of Directors, 1995-96
- Ohio Society of American Foresters, Chair, Urban Forestry Committee, 1995-2002
- State of Ohio Urban Forestry Council, member 1990-96; Chair 1990-93
- Union County YMCA Athletics, Coach, 1998
- Urban Forestry Planning and Management Task Force, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, Member, 1993-94
- Society of American Foresters, member, 1983-present
- Published author and photographer, various publications
- Veteran public speaker, including presentations for seminars, webinars, conferences, classes (preschool – graduate school level), and many non-profit/civic groups

## **REFERENCES: AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

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