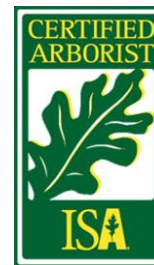


# STEVEN R. COTHREL

(614) 562-7555

[srcothrel@gmail.com](mailto:srcothrel@gmail.com)



## QUALIFICATIONS

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I am a passionate urban forestry and park management professional, and I have worked for universities, park districts, 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 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, Upper Arlington, Ohio

April 1996-September 2020

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 custom 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 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 countless 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;
- 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 services;
- retired in 2020 after more than 30 years of service.

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR**

Columbus State Community College, Columbus, Ohio  
September 1994-December 2003

- 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, Upper Arlington, Ohio  
July 1989-March 1996

- 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, Columbus, Ohio  
February 1986-July 1989

- 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, Durham, New Hampshire  
September 1985-February 1986

**ARBORIST**

City of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio  
1985

**RESEARCH & TEACHING ASSISTANT**

The Ohio State University, Columbus and Wooster, Ohio  
1983-1985

**AGRICULTURAL IPM SCOUT**

The Ohio State University Cooperative Extension Service, Newark, Ohio  
1983

**PARKS MAINTENANCE WORKER**

Toledo Area Metroparks, Toledo, Ohio  
Summers, 1980-1982

**CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN**

Erie Hunting and Fishing Club, Erie, Michigan  
Summers 1978-1979

**FARM HAND & VENDOR**

Silvestri Farms, Sylvania, Ohio  
1977-1978

**OTHER:** Driver Education Instructor, Consultant, Author, Photographer, Moderator, Public Speaker, Ordained Minister and Wedding Officiant/Planner

## 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

- Licensed Pesticide Applicator, Ohio Department of Agriculture (#19237 – expired 2024)
- Certified Playground Safety Inspector, National Recreation and Parks Association (#3690-1007 - expired)
- Certified Arborist & Urban Forest Professional, International Society of Arboriculture (#OH-0234 A M)

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE & COMMUNITY SERVICE

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- Village of Baltimore Parks & Recreation Board, Chair, 2010-2018
- Village of Baltimore Tree Commission, Vice-Chair or Secretary, 2010-present
- Columbus Tree Sub-commission, member, Vice-Chair, or Chair 2015-present
- Urban Forestry Foundation, Founding Trustee/Treasurer, 2008-2023
- Liberty Union High School, varsity soccer stadium announcer, 2007-2014
- Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission & Ohio Public Works Commission, Natural Resources Assistance Council member or Chair, (Clean Ohio Grants), 2007-2020
- Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee & Victoria Opera House, Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Director, or Director, 2007-present
- American Public Works Association, member, 2004-2020
- Ohio Parks and Recreation Association, member, 1996-2020
- 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
- Urban and Community Forestry Society
  - International President, 2002-2003
  - Executive Board, 1995-2004
  - Chair or member of many committees, 1994-2024
  - Received Award of Achievement, 2005; Awarded Life Membership 2007
- International Society of Arboriculture - Ohio Chapter
  - Chair, Municipal Arborists Committee, 1992-96
  - Board of Directors, 1993-94
  - Program Committee, 1992-96; 2018-present
  - Awarded Life Membership in ISA, 2020
- 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, 1993-94
- Society of American Foresters, member, 1983-present
- Sycamore Learning Cooperative, Board Member & Secretary, 2022-2024