

# WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER / FIRE TOWER WATCHMAN

Wildland firefighters combat and prevent forest or prairie fires. Forest Fire Tower Watchmen reside in fire towers to observe a particular area for fires and then notify the proper authorities.

## WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Serve as a firefighter or engine operator during wildfire suppression
- If serving as a fire tower watchman or in a dispatch role, contact appropriate emergency personnel to control and extinguish fires
- Provide rescue and alert emergency medical assistance to persons or animals injured in fire
- Conduct maintenance on fire engines, tractors, mowers, chainsaws and other tools
- Participate in fire break preparation, which includes the removal of rocks, trimming of trees, and mowing to more easily stop the spread of wildfire
- Maintain preparedness throughout fire season including readiness of gear and equipment
- Process and interpret weather information to determine burning likelihood
- Assist with fire training orientation
- Record and maintain fire logs
- Perform fire station housekeeping as needed



## WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

High school diploma required; Associate's or Bachelor's degree in fire science or natural resources preferred

## THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, natural resources, biology, chemistry, physical education, mathematics

## TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Specialized fire departments and wildland firefighting agencies, fire safety organizations, preserves and parks, or other conservation organizations

## FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



## SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- International Association of Fire Safety Science
- Forest Fire Lookout Association
- International Association of Wildland Fire

## AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$46,000