



Media Advisory

Department of Public Works

Providing a clean, safe and healthy environment

Richmond, Virginia

The Honorable Mayor Levar M. Stoney

For Immediate Release
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City Arborist Selected for Board Position with International Society of Arboriculture

RICHMOND, Va. – Department of Public Works Arborist Janine Lester has been nominated to sit on the Board of Directors with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Lester, who is a board certified master arborist (BCMA) – municipal specialist and a qualified tree risk assessor, is the city's first and only female arborist. She is currently the interim operations manager for the Urban Forestry Division.

Lester serves as the education chair of the Richmond Tree Stewards, and as a master gardener extension agent with the Virginia Cooperative Extension. She is the only female holding a BCMA-level certification in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Lester holds memberships in the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA), Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA), and the Arboricultural Research and Education Academy (AREA).

The International Society of Arboriculture is a global organization, based in the U.S., with more than 24,000 members around the world. Founded in 1924, ISA promotes the professional practice of arboriculture through research, technology, and education; and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees.

For more information on City services please visit www.Richmondgov.com.

We're Social! For updates on DPW-related projects, activities and events visit us on Twitter @DPW_RichmondVA

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The City of Richmond Department of Public Works (DPW) is one of only 178 currently accredited public works agencies in the United States. DPW's portfolio comprises a wide array of services to include leaf collection; street, sidewalk and alley maintenance; trash collection; recycling; grass cutting; graffiti removal; parking enforcement; urban forestry; street signs; traffic signals and pavement markings and civil engineering. In addition, DPW maintains upkeep on most city buildings; issues permits for working in the city's right-of-way; manages the RVA Bike Share program and maintains the fleet of city vehicles. DPW's operating budget comes from the general fund of the City of Richmond. For more information about DPW services, [click here](#) or call 3-1-1.