



# Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance

Felicia Strong-Whitaker, Interim Director

**REQUEST FOR E-QUOTE NUMBER: 13VR90669A**

**PROJECT TITLE: Tree Removal Service**

**DUE DATE: Friday, November 1, 2013**

**WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL: 2:00 P.M.**

**LAST DAY FOR QUESTIONS: Wednesday, October 30, 2013**

BIDDERS MAY SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION OR QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS E-QUOTE TO THE PURCHASING CONTACT PERSON LISTED BELOW. ANY REQUEST SHALL ONLY BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING (FAX OR EMAIL). ALL RESPONSES TO WRITTEN REQUEST(S) WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AS ADDENDA TO THIS E-QUOTE AND POSTED ON THE FULTON COUNTY WEBSITE AT [www.fultoncountyga.gov](http://www.fultoncountyga.gov).

THE COUNTY WILL NOT RESPOND TO REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER *THE ABOVE MENTIONED DATE* AT 2:00 P.M.

E-QUOTE RESPONSES MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AT [www.fultonvendoreselfservice.co.fulton.ga.us](http://www.fultonvendoreselfservice.co.fulton.ga.us). BY THE DATE AND TIME INDICATED. You must be a registered vendor in order to respond to E-QUOTES.

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING PURCHASING PROCEDURES OR THE SPECIFICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED ONLY TO THE PURCHASING CONTACT PERSON LISTED BELOW VIA EMAIL ONLY. NO PHONE CALLS WILL BE ACCEPTED. BIDDERS MAY NOT HAVE CONTACT WITH COUNTY OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS OR COUNTY EMPLOYEES REGARDING THIS BID PRIOR TO AWARD OF PURCHASE ORDER. VIOLATION OF THIS INSTRUCTION WILL RESULT IN YOUR BID BEING FOUND NON-RESPONSIVE.

CONTACT NAME:  
Vearnetta Rivers

E-MAIL ADDRESS:  
vearnetta.rivers@fultoncountyga.gov

FAX NUMBER:  
404 893-6588

All information requested on this sheet must be completed. Unless specifications indicate "NO SUBSTITUTE", items determined by Fulton County to be "EQUAL OR BETTER" will be given full consideration. All prices QUOTED must be "FOB DELIVERED" unless otherwise requested, and must be submitted in the format requested. The County reserves the right to cancel the solicitation and to reject any or all quotes in whole or in part and is not bound to accept any quote if rejection of that quote is determined to be contrary to the best interest of the County.

**REQUEST FOR QUOTE  
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

The following provisions are hereby made a part of this Request for Quote ("E-QUOTE"). Any contract or purchase order awarded as the result of this request shall be governed by these General Terms and Conditions. By submission of your responses to this e-quote, vendor agrees to furnish the product(s) and/or service(s) pursuant to these conditions.

1. **GENERAL.** These provisions are standard for all County contracts. The County may delete or modify any of these standard provisions for a particular contract or purchase order by indicating a change in the special instructions or provisions. **Any vendor accepting a purchase order award as the result of this request agrees that the provisions included within this Request for E-Quote shall prevail over any conflicting provision within any standard form contract of the vendor.**
2. **SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES.** Responses must be submitted for e-quotes on-line via the Vendor Self Service system at <https://fultonvendorselfservice.co.fulton.ga.us/webapp/VSSPROD/Advantage>. Response to e-quotes must be received no later than 2:00 p.m. on the date indicated.
3. **AMENDMENTS TO THE REQUEST FOR E-QUOTE.** Any amendment to pricing is valid only if in writing and issued by the County.
4. **ADDENDUM.** Revision to the Request for E-Quote issued by the County prior to the receipt of bids.
5. **NON-COLLUSION.** Bidder certifies that this bid is made without prior understanding, agreement or connection with any other corporation, firm or person submitting a bid for the same work, labor or service to be done or the supplies, materials or equipment to be furnished and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. Bidder further understands collusive bidding is a violation of state and federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences and civil damage awards. Bidder agrees to abide by all conditions of this bid and certifies that person signing is authorized to sign this bid or proposal for the bidder.
6. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST.** Vendor states that no County officer or employee, nor any business entity in which they have an interest: a) Has an interest in the contract awarded; b) Has been employed or retained to solicit or aid in the procuring of the resulting contract; c) Will be employed in the performance of such contract without immediate disclosure of such fact to the County.
7. **BASIS OF AWARD.** The County shall award to the overall lowest responsible and responsive vendor complying with the provisions of the Request for E-Quote. The following criteria may be considered by the County in selecting the most advantageous quote: a) Ability to perform the service required within the specified time; b) Conformance to specification; c) The quality of performance in previous contracts; d) Financial ability to perform the contract; e) Item pricing; f) vendor references. The County reserves the right to cancel the solicitation and to reject any or all quotes in whole or in part and is not bound to accept any quote if rejection of that quote is determined to be contrary to the best interest of the County.
8. **SAMPLES.** Samples of items when required, must be furnished free of expense to the County and upon request, be returned to the Vendor at the Vendor's expense. Samples of selected items may be retained for comparison purposes.
9. **NEW.** All items bid must be new. Used, rebuilt and refurbished items will not be considered unless specifically authorized by Fulton County in the written specifications.
10. **BRAND NAME SPECIFICATIONS AND APPROVED EQUIVALENTS.** Unless otherwise specified, manufacturer's names, trade names, brand names, information and/or catalog numbers listed in the specifications are intended only to identify the quality and characteristics desired. They are not intended to limit competition. The Vendor may offer any equivalent product which meets or exceeds the specifications. If quotations are based on equivalent products, the quote must: a) Indicate the alternate manufacturer's name and catalog number; b) Include complete descriptive literature and/or specifications; c) Include proof that the proposed equivalent will meet the specifications. The County reserves the right to be the sole judge of what is equal and acceptable to meet its needs in all respects. If Bidder fails to name a substitute, goods identical to the published standard must be furnished.
11. **INDEMNIFICATION.** Contractor/Vendor hereby agrees to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless the County, it's Commissioners, officers, employees, subcontractors, successors, assigns and agents from and against any and all losses (including death), claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including but not limited to all actions, proceedings, or investigations in respect thereof and any outcome of any such action, proceeding, or investigation), caused by, relating to, based upon or arising out of any act or omission by contractor, it's directors, officers,

employees, subcontractors, successors, assigns or agents, or otherwise in connection with its acceptance, of the performance, or nonperformance, of its obligations under this agreements.

12. **TAXES.** Fulton County is exempt from the State of Georgia sales tax and exemption certificate will be furnished upon request.
13. **DELIVERY.** All prices must be FOB Destination, unloaded inside and assembled unless otherwise indicated.
14. **RIGHTS AND REMEDIES OF COUNTY FOR DEFAULT.** If any item furnished by the Vendor fails to conform to specifications, or to the sample submitted by the Vendor, the County may reject it. Upon rejection, the Vendor must promptly reclaim and remove such item without expense to the County, and shall immediately replace all such rejected items with others conforming to such specification and samples. If the Vendor fails to do so, the County has the right to purchase in the open market a corresponding quantity of any such items and to deduct from any monies due the Vendor the difference between the prices named in the purchase order and the actual cost to the County. If the Vendor fails to make prompt delivery of any item, the County has the right to purchase such item in the open market and to deduct from any monies due the Vendor the difference between the prices named in the purchase order and the actual replacement cost to the County. The rights and remedies of the County identified above are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under the purchase order.
15. **INVOICES AND PAYMENT TERMS.** Invoices are to be mailed to the County department specified on the resulting purchase order or master agreement. All invoices must include the purchase order number or master agreement number. Failure to comply may result in delayed payments. The County payment terms are Net 30 days unless a cash discount is allowed for payment within not less than twenty (20) days. The payment term shall begin on the date the merchandise is inspected, delivered and accepted by the County and the correct invoice is received in the office specified on the purchase order.
16. **LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.** Federal, State, County and local ordinances, rules and regulations, and policies shall govern development, submittal and evaluation of quote and disputes about quotes. Lack of knowledge by any Vendor about applicable law is not a defense.
17. **ASSIGNMENT.** Any purchase order awarded shall not be assignable by the Vendor without the express written approval of the County, and shall not become an asset in any bankruptcy, receivership or guardianship proceedings.
18. **REJECTION OF BID.** Bids may be considered irregular and may be rejected if they show omissions, alternations of form, additions not called for, conditions, limitations, unauthorized alternate bids or other irregularities of any kind. The County reserves the right to waive minor technicalities or irregularities of bid.
19. **TERMINATION.** In the event any of the provisions of the purchase order are violated, the County may serve written notice of its intention to terminate the purchase order. Such notice will state the reason(s) for such intention, and unless within ten (10) days after serving notice upon the contractor, such violation has ceased and satisfactory arrangements for correction made, the purchase order shall, upon expiration of ten (10) days, be terminated. Further, the County reserves the right to terminate for its convenience any purchase order in whole or in part upon giving thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party.
20. **DEBARMENT.** If a Bidder is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or otherwise excluded from doing business with any government agency which prohibits your firm from participating in any procurement, the Bidder must provide the County with that information as part of its response to this solicitation. Failure to fully and truthfully provide the information required, may result in the disqualification of your bid from consideration or termination of the purchase order, once awarded.
21. **RIGHT TO PROTEST.** Any actual or prospective Bidder who is aggrieved in connection with a solicitation or award of a contract/purchase order must submit its protest in writing to the Director of Purchasing & Contract Compliance, 130 Peachtree St. S.W., Suite 1168, Atlanta, GA 30303. A protest must be submitted to the Director of Purchasing & Contract Compliance in writing within 14 days after such aggrieved entity knows or should have known of the solicitation, the award of contract/purchase order to another or other acts giving rise to a protest. An oral protest or a protest to an official, employee, user department, or other person apart from the Director of Purchasing does not comply with Fulton County Code Section 2-324 and does not toll the protest time period.
22. **BINDING AUTHORITY.** The individual submitting this E-QUOTE must have binding authority to submit contracts on behalf of the responding company. By submitting a response, vendor agrees that their quote is an offer to sell. All bidders shall comply with all Fulton County purchasing laws, policies, and procedures, as well as relevant state and federal laws, including compliance with EEOC hiring guidelines and requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

## REQUEST FOR E-QUOTE SPECIFICATIONS

### *Tree Removal Services Department of Water Resources*

#### 1. DESCRIPTION

Fulton County Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance is soliciting e-quotes from qualified vendors to provide Tree Removal Service for the Department of Water Resources.

#### 2. CONTACT PERSON

Please contact Vearnetta Rivers by e-mail [vearnetta.rivers@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:vearnetta.rivers@fultoncountyga.gov) or Fax (404) 893-6588 only, with any procedural or technical questions. All questions should be submitted in writing to the Purchasing contact person via email only. No phone calls will be accepted. Any responses made by the County will be provided in writing to all Bidders by addendum. No verbal responses shall be authoritative.

#### 3. TERM OF AGREEMENT

The term of agreement is for 12 months from issuance of purchase order.

#### 4. PRODUCT/SERVICE SPECIFICATIONS

Total tree removal shall include, at a minimum, cutting the specified tree down even with or as low to the ground as possible, grinding the stump 4" below ground surface, filling this depression, chopping/chipping and hauling off the premises all debris. Debris must be hauled off immediately upon completion of job. Limb removal from living trees must be cut so as not to damage the limb collar. Stump grinding shall be required on every tree to a depth 4" below ground surface and shall be completed in accordance with industry standards. All debris from the grinding of the stump shall be removed, unless otherwise specified by authorized County personnel. The contractor shall be responsible for the protection of underground utilities as per the Georgia Underground Utilities Protection Act.

#### 5. PRICING SHEETS

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Item Description</i>	<i>Estimated Quantity</i>	<i>Unit of Issue</i>	<i>Unit price (\$)</i>
1.	Tree removal services, 3 day response with easy access and may be dropped.	100	Per diameter inch	
2.	Tree removal services, 3 day response with difficult access and must be de-limbed	100	Per diameter inch	
3.	Tree removal services, 1 day response with easy access and may be dropped.	100	Per diameter inch	
4.	Tree removal service, 1-day response with difficult access and must be de-limbed.	100	Per diameter inch	

## 6. SPECIAL CONDITIONS/INSTRUCTIONS

All work shall be paid at the rate quoted. No minimum charge is allowed and charges not included in the quote will not be allowable.

Tree removal will be paid on a per inch basis of the measured diameter of each tree. Fulton County personnel shall witness and document the measurement of each tree removed. The measurement of the tree diameter shall be made at a point 4.5' above the ground surface. If distortions, branches or swelling is located at the 4.5' level, the tree shall be measured at the 4' and 5' level and the 2 diameters averaged. On a sloped surface the measurement shall be made on the uphill side. The tape measure shall be held at a right angle to the trunk, taking care that the tape is not twisted. If a traditional tape measure is used, the circumference shall be measured in inches and this figure divided by pi (3.142) to obtain the diameter in inches. Alternately, a logger's diameter tape calibrated in inches may be used.

Tree removal will be paid on the basis of tree location and difficulty. One rate will prevail for those trees that can be classified as "easy access" and can be taken down or dropped without the need for de-limbing and removal in sections. A second rate will prevail for those trees that are "difficult access" and require substantial de-limbing and must be removed in sections. Determination will be made and agreed upon by authorized Contractor and Fulton County representatives, prior to commencement of work.

Contractors shall be responsible for notifying all utility companies, Utilities Protection Center of Georgia and landowners adjacent to job sites for approval permission whenever applicable and shall be ultimately accountable for project execution and liability.

**COMPANY PERSONNEL:** All personnel must be uniformed with their company logo clearly visible on their uniform. The vehicle should have the company's name printed at the back or either sides of the vehicle(s). At least one contact person on each crew must be able to communicate verbally with the Fulton County Contract Administrator to resolve any issues on site. At least one member of each crew that works on Fulton County sites must have a valid Georgia Driver's License.

**WORKING HOURS:** For the purpose of this contract, normal working hours will be from 7:30 A.M. through 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding Fulton County holidays. The successful bidder(s) shall be required to respond to normal requests within 3 business days and urgent requests within 1 business day. The successful bidder(s) are required to maintain a point of contact for service twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, including all holidays. Failure to adhere to this paragraph can be grounds for termination of the contract. The successful contractors must respond to requests in accordance with the following criteria:

A. Normal Requests: Services must be provided within three (3) business days upon notification.

B. Urgent Requests: Services must be provided within one (1) business day upon notification

Service rates will be charged for normal and urgent requests according to the per inch rates

bid. Failure to meet response times shall be cause for termination of the contract. All debris shall be completely removed from the site and properly disposed of and the stump ground to 4" below the surrounding surface.

All responding contractors are required to be authorized contractors regularly engaged in the application of the type services for which the contractor is submitting a bid. Bidder's emergency phone number (must be monitored 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Please provide the information below:

**AUTHORIZATION TO PLACE CALLS:** The following is a list of personnel authorized to place calls against this contract. Failure to receive proper authorization prior to providing the service and/or parts can be grounds for nonpayment of the invoice. Other names may be added by the County as needed.

**Name**

Thomas Czeczil – Water System Superintendent II  
 Grady Cochran – Water System Superintendent I  
 Glenn Smith – Sewer System Superintendent

Invoices must match quote prices sheet format.

Vendors will only be paid for items listed on the quote pricing sheet (see section #5 pricing sheet).

## 7. INSURANCE & RISK MANAGEMENT PROVISIONS

### Tree Removal Service

It is Fulton County Government's practice to obtain Certificates of Insurance from our Contractors and Vendors. Insurance must be written by a licensed agent in a company licensed to write insurance in the State of Georgia, with an A.M. Best rating of at least A- VI, subject to final approval by Fulton County. Respondents shall submit with the bid/proposal evidence of insurability satisfactory to Fulton County Government as to form and content. Either of the following forms of evidence is acceptable:

- A letter from an insurance carrier stating that upon your firm/company being the successful Bidder/Respondent that a Certificate of Insurance shall be issued in compliance with the Insurance and Risk Management Provisions outlined below.
- A Certificate of Insurance complying with the Insurance and Risk Management Provisions outlined below (Request for Bid/Proposal number and Project Name, Number and Description must appear on the Certificate of Insurance).
- A combination of a specific policy written with an umbrella policy covering liabilities in excess of the required limits is acceptable to achieve the applicable insurance coverage levels.

Upon award, the Contractor/Vendor must maintain at their expense, insurance with policy limits equal to or greater than the limits described below. Proof of insurance must be provided to Fulton County Government prior to the start of any activities/construction as described in the bid document(s). Any and all Insurance Coverage(s) and Bonds required under the terms and conditions of the contract shall be maintained during the entire length of the contract, including any extensions or renewals thereto, and until all work has been completed to the satisfaction of Fulton

County Government.

**Accordingly the Respondent shall provide a certificate evidencing the following:**

**1. WORKERS COMPENSATION/EMPLOYER'S LIABILITY INSURANCE – STATUTORY (In compliance with the Georgia Workers Compensation Acts, including but not limited to U.S. Longshoremen and Harbor Workers Act and any other State or Federal Acts or Provisions in which jurisdiction may be granted)**

Employer's Liability Insurance	BY ACCIDENT	EACH ACCIDENT	\$1,000,000
Employer's Liability Insurance	BY DISEASE	POLICY LIMIT	\$1,000,000
Employer's Liability Insurance	BY DISEASE	EACH EMPLOYEE	\$1,000,000

**2. COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE (Including contractual Liability Insurance)**

Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability (Other than Products/Completed Operations)	Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000
General Aggregate		\$2,000,000
Products\Completed Operation	Aggregate Limit	\$2,000,000
Personal and Advertising Injury	Limits	\$1,000,000
Damage to Rented Premises	Limits	\$100,000

**3. BUSINESS AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY INSURANCE**

<b>Combined Single Limits</b>	Each Occurrence	\$1,000,000
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(Including operation of non-owned, owned, and hired automobiles).

\*\*Broadened Pollution Endorsement CA9948 and MCS 90\*\*

**4. UMBRELLA LIABILITY**

	Per Occurrence	\$1,000,000
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**Certificates of Insurance**

Certificates shall state that the policy or policies shall not expire, be cancelled or altered without at least thirty (30) days prior written notice to Fulton County Government. Policies and Certificates of Insurance are to list Fulton County Government as an Additional Insured (except for Workers' Compensation) and shall conform to all terms and conditions (including coverage of the indemnification and hold harmless agreement) contained in the Insurance and Risk Management Provisions.

If Fulton County Government shall so request, the Respondent, Contractor or Vendor will furnish the County for its inspection and approval such policies of insurance with all endorsements, or confirmed specimens thereof certified by the insurance company to be true and correct copies.

The Contractor agrees to name the Owner and all other parties required of the Contractor/Vendor shall be included as additional insureds on the CGL, using ISO Additional Insured Endorsement forms CG 2010 11/85 or its equivalent coverage to the additional insureds. This insurance for the additional insureds shall be as broad as the coverage provided for the named insured Contractor. It shall apply as Primary Insurance before any other insurance or self-insurance, including any deductible, non-contributory, and Waiver of Subrogation provided in favor of Fulton County.

Additional Insured under the General Liability, Auto Liability, Umbrella Policies (with exception of Workers Compensation), with no Cross Suits exclusion.

**Important:**

It is understood that **Insurance in no way Limits the Liability of the Contractor/Vendor.**

**USE OF PREMISES**

Contractor/Vendor shall confine its apparatus, the storage of materials and the operations of its workers to limits/requirements indicated by law, ordinance, permits and any restrictions of Fulton County Government and shall not unreasonably encumber the premises with its materials.

**PROTECTION OF PROPERTY**

Contractor/Vendor will adequately protect its own work from damage, will protect Fulton County Government's property from damage or loss and will take all necessary precautions during the progress of the work to protect all persons and the property of others from damage or loss.

Contractor/Vendor shall take all necessary precautions for the safety of employees of the work and shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal, State and local safety laws and building codes to prevent accidents or injury to persons on, about, or adjacent to the premises where work is being performed.

Contractor/Vendor shall erect and properly maintain at all times as required by the conditions and progress of the work, all necessary safeguards for the protection of its employees, Fulton County Government employees and the public and shall post all applicable signage and other warning devices to protect against potential hazards for the work being performed.

**INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

Contractor/Vendor hereby agrees to release, indemnify, defend and hold harmless Fulton County, its Commissioners, officers, employees, sub-consultants, successors, assigns and agents, from and against any and all losses (including death), claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses (including but not limited to all actions, proceedings, or investigations in respect thereof and any costs of judgments, settlements, court costs, attorney's fees or expenses, regardless of the outcome of any such action, proceeding, or investigation), caused by, relating to, based upon or arising out of any act or omission by Consultant, its directors, officers, employees, sub-consultants, successors, assigns or agents, or otherwise in connection (directly or indirectly) with its acceptance, or the performance, or nonperformance, of its obligations under these agreements. Such obligations shall not be construed to negate, abridge or otherwise reduce any other rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist as to any party or person as set forth in this paragraph.

Contractor/Vendor further agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold harmless Fulton County, its Commissioners, officers, employees, sub-consultants, successors, assigns and agents from and against any and all claims or liability for compensation under the Worker's Compensation Act, Disability Benefits Act, or any other employee benefits act arising out of injuries sustained by any employees of Consultant. These indemnities shall not be limited by reason of the listing of any insurance coverage.

CONTRACTOR/VENDOR ACKNOWLEDGES HAVING READ, UNDERSTANDING, AND AGREEING TO COMPLY WITH THIS INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT, AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTRACTOR/VENDOR IDENTIFIED BELOW IS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN CONTRACTS ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDING CONTRACTOR/VENDOR.

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_