

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator / Operator Trainees

Dept/Div: Public Utilities/N/A

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

General Definition of Work

Performs skilled trades work operating a wastewater treatment plant, taking samples, reading gauges and charts, helping maintain plant equipment, maintaining records, preparing reports, and related work as apparent or assigned. Work is performed under the limited supervision of the Chief Treatment Plant Operator. Close supervision is exercised over Treatment Plant Operator Trainees until they are adequately trained to perform basic daily duties.

Qualification Requirements

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential function satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable an individual with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Essential Functions

- Conducts regular inspections of plant and equipment to ensure that it is in proper operation at all times.
- Records readings from instruments; maintains records on plant operations.
- Regulates and adjusts motor, pumps, blowers, valves and other apparatus to meet changing operating conditions as directed by supervisor.
- Checks all plant equipment and chemical feed systems for proper operation.
- Changes plant process as necessary to improve plant efficiency.
- Collects wastewater samples for analysis.
- Performs laboratory analysis of wastewater influent, effluent and process wastewater.
- Performs mathematical calculations associated with the treatment process to determine plant efficiency and meet environmental requirements.
- Travel to and performs routine inspections of sewerage lift stations.
- Performs general custodial and grounds maintenance work.
- Loads and unloads treatment chemicals, supplies, pumps, etc.
- May be required to work outside normal work hours for on-call and emergency situations.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

General knowledge of the operating characteristics and maintenance requirements of a water and/or wastewater treatment plant; general knowledge of hydraulic, chemical and mechanical principles pertinent to water and/or wastewater treatment plant operations; general knowledge of the occupational hazards of the work and of the necessary safety precautions; ability to detect flaws in the operation of equipment and to effect proper remedial measures; ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions; ability to read meters and charts accurately; skill in the use and care of hand and power tools; mechanical aptitude; ability to keep records and prepare reports; ability to operate personal computer including general knowledge of applicable software packages; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with associates.

Education and Experience

Minimum High school diploma or GED and moderate experience in a water or wastewater treatment plant operation. Candidates with Associates degree in associated field preferred.

Physical Requirements

This work requires the frequent exertion of up to 50 pounds of force and occasional exertion of over 100 pounds of force; work frequently standing and walking and occasionally requires sitting, speaking or hearing, using hands to finger, handle or feel, climbing or balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching or crawling, reaching with hands and arms, tasting or smelling, pushing or pulling, lifting and repetitive motions; work requires close vision, distance vision, ability to adjust focus and color perception; vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word and conveying detailed or important instructions to others accurately, loudly or

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quickly; hearing is required to perceive information at normal spoken word levels; work requires preparing and analyzing written or computer data, visual inspection involving small defects and/or small parts, using of measuring devices, assembly or fabrication of parts within arm's length, operating machines, operating motor vehicles or equipment and observing general surroundings and activities; work frequently requires exposure to outdoor weather conditions and occasionally requires wet, humid conditions (non-weather), working near moving mechanical parts, working in high, precarious places, exposure to fumes or airborne particles, exposure to toxic or caustic chemicals and exposure to the risk of electrical shock; work is generally in a moderately noisy location (e.g. business office, light traffic).

Special Requirements

Candidate must possess a Virginia Class II, III or IV Wastewater Operator's license upon employment or the ability to obtain licensure as an Operator Trainee.

Valid driver's license in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Last Revised: 1/1/2019