

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

*Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are **not** intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.*

JOB OBJECTIVES

Under direction, to operate and maintain the City's wastewater treatment plant, sewage pump stations and related equipment; to ensure compliance with NPDES permit requirements; and to perform a variety of laboratory, mechanical and operational functions relative to assigned area of responsibility.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTION STATEMENTS

The following tasks are typical for positions in this classification. Any single position may not perform all of these tasks and/or may perform similar related tasks not listed here:

Perform preventive and emergency maintenance and repairs to all mechanical, electrical and piping components related to the treatment plant and pump stations; maintain surrounding buildings and grounds.

Understand and operate a wide variety of wastewater treatment equipment and processes.

Conduct chemical and microbiological tests and sampling of raw and treated water; prepare test solutions; record test results; operate and maintain laboratory and testing equipment.

Identify, troubleshoot and diagnose process and equipment issues, and determine the appropriate corrective action.

Interpret results of laboratory tests to make operational adjustments to pumps, valves, chemical feed systems, pump settings and other components to maintain compliance with State and Federal regulations.

Provide assistance to other Public Works Department areas, as needed.

AUXILIARY FUNCTION STATEMENTS

Follow all safety rules and procedures established for work area.

Perform related duties and responsibilities as required.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Operations, services and activities of a municipal wastewater treatment program.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator (Continued)

Principles, practices, materials, chemicals and operating procedures related to the operation and maintenance of a modern wastewater treatment plant.

Methods and techniques of conducting laboratory tests and procedures related to water and wastewater treatment analysis.

Tools, equipment and procedures used in the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment plant and pumping facilities.

Emergency maintenance and repair procedures related to wastewater treatment facilities.

Basic principles and applications of chemistry and microbiology.

Mathematical principles.

Principles and practices of record keeping.

Occupational hazards and standard safety precautions.

Pertinent Federal, State and local laws, codes and regulations.

Ability to:

Operate and maintain a variety of wastewater treatment plant equipment and facilities.

Conduct laboratory tests and procedures related to water and wastewater treatment in accordance with State and Federal regulations and requirements.

Diagnose operational problems and perform effective maintenance on equipment.

Collect, interpret and utilize process data to understand, diagnose and improve treatment processes.

Read, interpret and understand blueprints, drawings, diagrams, schematics, charts and technical manuals.

Operate basic office equipment, including proficiency in using personal computers.

Operate common office software such as MS Outlook and Excel.

Operate a forklift, pallet jack, and winch/hoist.

Ensure compliance with NPDES permit regulations.

Maintain accurate and detailed logs and records.

Operate assigned equipment and tools in a safe and effective manner.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Education and Experience Guidelines

Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator (Continued)

Education:

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by specialized training in wastewater treatment plant operations and/or maintenance or a related field.

Experience:

Two years of increasingly responsible experience in the maintenance and operation of a wastewater treatment plant and pumping facility.

License or Certificate

Possession of a valid driver's license.

Possession of a Washington State Group 1 Wastewater Operator Certificate or the ability to obtain one within six months.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

The physical demands herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform these essential job functions.

Environment: Water and wastewater treatment plant environment; exposure to noise, dust, grease, smoke, fumes, gases, potentially hazardous chemicals, electrical energy; work in or with water. A large portion of the work is typically performed outdoors, regardless of weather conditions. Employee will be exposed to and must be able to work safely around machinery with moving parts. May be required to work in high places and confined spaces.

Mobility: Heavy, moderate or light lifting; walking, standing or sitting for prolonged periods of time; operating motorized equipment and vehicles.

Vision: Visual acuity to operate assigned machinery and equipment.

Hearing: Auditory acuity to hear warning alarms or audible signs of equipment malfunction.

Other Factors: Incumbents may be required to work extended hours including evenings and weekends. Incumbents may be required to travel outside City boundaries to attend meetings.