

CLASS TITLE: Water / Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I

DEFINITION:

This is technical work at the full performance level. An employee in this class with general supervision from the Superintendent, operates water purification plants wastewater treatment plants, and pumping stations in accordance with pertinent regulations.

Progress will be evaluated periodically in conference with the Superintendent to determine what mutually agreed upon goals and objectives have been met and to set goals for the forthcoming evaluation period.

Employees in this class are essential, thus subject to call back as well as extended shifts under emergency conditions.

TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF WORK:

Following written instructions, regulates the operation of chemical feeds; takes and records readings of amounts of chemicals added to the water; changes chlorine tanks; records chemical usages, checks for residual chlorine, performs routine lab analysis, and monitors for any changes in the wastewater and water treatment facilities.

Maintains proper water levels in tank and covered storage reservoir by operating pumps and opening and closing valves; takes water samples, conducts routine chemical tests, and checks samples for clearness of settled water.

Checks and lubricates pumps, motors and other plant equipment and brings any mechanical defects to the attention of the superintendent; assists with maintenance and repair of machinery and equipment.

Performs general custodial work in keeping plant clean and orderly; inspects and maintains pumping stations, inspects, and maintains water treatment wells and towers.

Reads water meters at dwellings.

Performs other duties as assigned.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Working knowledge of water and wastewater treatment plant operations and equipment; of the treatment process; of safety, accident prevention and first aid methods; of electrical and mechanical maintenance work

Working knowledge of chemistry and biology as well as proper sampling techniques and required laboratory analysis as set forth in the latest edition of “Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater”.

Willingness and ability to continue to learn treatment processes for wastewater.

Ability to operate a desktop / laptop computer, and willingness to learn aspects of Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, Windows, and other SCADA related computer programs.

Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing; to read engineering drawings and to solve mathematical problems.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Must be able to see and discern normal size typed print, corrective vision devices are acceptable; use a microscope to observe biological activity; discern colors, hear the normally spoken word at ten (10) feet, hearing aids are acceptable; discern odors as well as their concentrations; speak clearly and concisely to communicate with others; lift, pull, push and carry eighty (80) pounds; stand for periods in excess of one (1) hour; climb ladders and onto automotive equipment; jump two (2) feet to get off the equipment; kneel for a few minutes; pick up and work on an item on the floor; carry ten (10) pounds up and down a eight (8) foot ladder; work in an environment dealing with chemicals and be free of allergies to chemicals and water born matter; determine if an item is hot, cold or slippery; grasp items; read and understand work orders, equipment and procedure manuals written in the English language; solve moderately difficult mathematical problems; read and utilize engineering drawings and specifications; write up problems and action taken to resolve them or action recommended to be taken by others; work out of doors in inclement weather; walk one (1) mile. Must be able to work in a face mask and wear other personal protective equipment as required.

MINIMUM EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:

Graduation from an accredited high school or be in possession of a G.E.D., acceptable to the Superintendent of Schools for Maryland, to include or supplemented by a course in General Chemistry and one course in Technical English.

Applicant must have 500 hours or one (1) years' experience in water and or wastewater treatment operations.

Applicant shall within 3 years of employment sit for the Wastewater 5A Exam at least once.

REQUIRED LICENSES and/or CERTIFICATES:

Maryland Class “C” driver’s license

Class 1 Water Treatment Plant Operator's License

DESIRABLE ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Bucket Truck Certification

Forklift Certification

Herbicide Applicator Certification

Maryland Class "B" C.D.L. (commercial driver's license)

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Employee may be exposed to water and airborne diseases, work with dangerous mechanical and electrical equipment, and possible exposure to hazardous and toxic chemicals.

CONDITONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Applicant must pass a urinalysis test prior to appointment to ascertain freedom of any chemical or alcohol related dependency; such test may be repeated at random at the option of the employer subsequent to employment.

The employee is required to be available by cell phone during times of being on call.

Reliable transportation is required for purposes of reporting to work as well as for call backs during on call periods.

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