

WASTEWATER TREATMENT OPERATOR III

JOB SUMMARY

Under general supervision, operates, maintains and repairs a variety of equipment utilized in the treatment of wastewater; and performs other related work as assigned.

The Wastewater Treatment Operator III is the full journey-level position in the wastewater treatment operator series. The incumbent acts as a resource person in the performance of assigned, prescheduled and emergency operations, maintenance and repair work; incumbent also performs the most advanced operations, maintenance and repair work. Incumbent assigns, checks, guides, corrects, trains, reports on, and participates fully in the work.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

(Duties include but are not limited to the following):

- Conducts inspections of water reclamation plant equipment according to established procedures and schedules.
- Reads, records and calculates readings of meters and gauges, interpreting information into operating characteristics of equipment; makes adjustments to conform to operational requirements.
- Changes flow meter charts.
- Checks motors, pumps and other equipment for proper operation.
- Performs scheduled preventive maintenance and cleaning of tanks, pumps, valves, filters and other equipment.
- Adjusts, connects and monitors the addition of chemicals to wastewater processing.
- Adds specific doses of chemicals for proper operation of equipment, such polymers for centrifuges or sulfuric acid and descaling agents for the reverse osmosis (R.O.) units or other treatment equipment as required.
- Oversees the operation of tertiary treatment units and disposal operation.
- Performs routine chemical and microbiological evaluations of effluent and unit processes.
- Overhauls, modifies and makes major repairs to large pumps and varied water reclamation equipment; removing blockages, replacing working parts, removing parts to be machined by outside vendors and reassembling equipment.
- Paints equipment and buildings.
- Sweeps and washes down floors, walls and paved areas.
- Responsible for the cleanliness and general housekeeping of the plant.
- Performs rodent control for gophers, squirrels and mice.

- Kills and removes weeds, trims plants, picks up debris, mows lawns, waters and otherwise maintains landscaped areas.
- Performs pond management duties including erosion control and volume calculations.
- Performs minor fabrication of parts and tools.
- Operates air compressors, portable pumps, lawn mowers, weed-eaters and hand and power tools, in compliance with all safety regulations.
- Ensures safety equipment is in working order and that safety procedures are followed in the performance of duties.
- Performs the most skilled requirements of the job and observes and trains water reclamation operators in operations and maintenance, ensuring the safety of workers and equipment while avoiding unnecessary damage to property and the treatment system.
- Directs the Wastewater Operator I/II in the performance of their duties to ensure conformance to procedures and best practices of operation and maintenance.
- Develops work schedules addressing plant coverage and equipment maintenance requirements.
- Addresses customer inquiries as directed by the Supervisor.
- Troubleshoots complex process systems to determine operational or mechanical changes that are required to ensure on-going compliance.
- Researches performance standards and new technology to ensure compliance is being maintained in the most cost effective and efficient manner.
- Prepares documentation and data for use in regulatory reports and other documents as directed by the supervisor.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledge of:

- Tools, equipment and methods used in the repair and maintenance of pumps, valves and aeration equipment.
- Basic mathematics.
- Biological processes.
- Appropriate safety precautions and procedures.
- English usage, oral and written.
- Basic record keeping.
- Operation, maintenance and repair of water reclamation plant equipment (excluding complex electrical and instrumentation repairs) at an advanced level.
- Basis principles of hydraulics.
- Basic chemistry.
- Basic principles of leadership and training.
- Fundamentals of laboratory analysis, interpretation and calculations.

- The hazards inherent in wastewater treatment and appropriate safety precautions and procedures.
- The specific policies, procedures and operation routines of a water reclamation plant.

Ability to:

- Read and write at a level sufficient for job success.
- Perform skilled work in the operation, maintenance and repair of water reclamation equipment.
- Operate power and hand tools and equipment with proficiency.
- Make accurate inspections of operating equipment, assess from visual inspection the operational condition of wastewater; identify malfunctioning equipment and take necessary corrective actions to rectify the situation.
- Make mathematical calculations with accuracy.
- Read gauges accurately and maintain records.
- Operate a vehicle observing legal and defensive driving practices.
- Understand and carry out oral and written instructions.
- Establish and maintain effective relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- Keep accurate records and prepare concise and meaningful reports.

Experience and Education:

Any combination of training, experience and education that could likely provide the required knowledge and abilities stated above, and the ability to perform the duties of the position would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Experience: Three years of progressively responsible experience in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant; including some experience in the operation of Tertiary Treatment Systems, and other advanced treatment processes.

Education: Formal or informal education or training at a level which ensures the ability to read, write, and perform mathematical computations and write reports at a level necessary for successful job performance. Supplemental training or course work in the principles of supervision is desired.

Licenses and Certificates:

1) Possession of a valid California driver's license, Class C, with ability to maintain insurability under the District's insurance carrier. 2) Possession of a California State Water Resource Control Board Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator certificate, Grade II, at time of appointment is required; attainment of a Grade III, is required within two (2) years of appointment.

Certification at the required level must be maintained.

Physical Demands:

Hear normal conversation in person and/or on the telephone, with or without electronic aids; see to read fine print; operate hand and power tools requiring strength and coordination; use hands and fingers repetitively to manipulate small objects and print or write legibly; regularly lift over 50 pounds and frequently, over 100 pounds, with assistance; reach with hands and arms; speak in a normal voice to be able to be heard and understood on the telephone; awareness of electrical hazards; be exposed to harsh substances; be exposed to foul odors within acceptable ranges/levels; work in confined spaces; wear protective apparel including, but not limited to, goggles, face protectors, aprons, shoes and a respirator as required by OSHA standards.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

May be required to work evenings and weekends and assume stand-by duty if necessary.

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