

SENIOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

General Statement of Duties

Performs skilled operational and maintenance functions in the operations of wastewater treatment plants; serves as back-up ORC and in the absence of the Superintendent.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

An employee in this class performs a variety of operational, laboratory, and maintenance duties designed to produce safe treatment and disposal of domestic and commercial waste materials. The class is distinguished from the WWTP Operator class by responsibility serving as back up ORC for the plant requiring a grade III certification and assisting in the land application program. Work is performed on an assigned or rotating shift. Work includes monitoring the plant's operation through observation, mechanical readings and the results of standard chemical and biological tests and to make necessary adjustments in the process as conditions or test results dictate. Work also includes a variety of equipment, grounds and facility maintenance and substantial record keeping of work activities. Employees are subject to hazards associated with wastewater and plant operations including working in both inside and outside environments, in extreme hot and cold weather, and exposure to various hazards such as loud noises, moving mechanical parts, electrical current, chemicals, fumes, odors, dusts, mists, gases, poor ventilation, working in small spaces such as sewer pipes, and oils. Work around wastewater is also subject to the final standards of OSHA on blood borne pathogens. Work is performed under regular supervision and reviewed by observation, conference, and reviewing records for adherence to operations standards, instructions, and safety practices.

Duties and Responsibilities

Essential Duties and Tasks

Serves as back-up ORC for the treatment plant and reviews data from land application program; serves in the absence of the WWTP Superintendent; enters data for preparation of regulatory reports.

Makes regular tours of plant and checks bar screens, engines, generators, pumps, settling tanks, filters, clarifiers, chlorination and dechlorination system this includes unloading and changing cylinders as needed, and other equipment for proper functioning; determines if plant processes need adjusting; determines if it is appropriate to waste biosolids.

Records data from various meters, gauges and dials; logs daily, weekly, and monthly activities.

Performs general preventive and scheduled maintenance; leads and participates in trouble shooting and major maintenance and repairs.

Regulates and adjusts motors, pumps, blowers, valves and other apparatus to meet changing operating conditions.

Assist with industrial pretreatment program; assist with regular inspections monitoring significant industrial users; checks non-SIUs; coordinates head works analysis with contractor; collects and processes samples analyzing some and packaging others for contract lab analysis; maintains necessary data.

Participates in established laboratory analysis for process control and regulatory requirements as well as collecting samples per SIU permit requirements.

Performs routine grounds and building maintenance including mowing, cleaning, and painting.

Monitors the operation of the activated sludge plant.
Participates in ordering supplies and equipment; obtains quotes for budget planning.
Orders parts and supplies.

Additional Job Duties

May participate in training new operators.
Is responsible for writing and updating procedures for operation of plant, maintenance, laboratory testing and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan. Also checks for compliance requirements as needed.
Performs related duties as required.

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Recruitment and Selection Guidelines

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities

Considerable knowledge of the operating characteristics and maintenance requirement of wastewater treatment plants.

Considerable knowledge of hydraulic, chemical and mechanical principles pertinent to wastewater treatment plant operations.

Considerable knowledge of applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and permitting requirements.

Considerable knowledge of the occupational hazards of the work and of necessary safety precautions.

Knowledge of regulatory requirements and standard practices for industrial pretreatment programs.

Working knowledge of the application of information technology to the work of the plant and of reporting and other state certification and permitting requirements.

Skill in collaborative conflict resolution.

Ability to detect flaws in the operation of mechanical equipment and to determine proper remedial measures.

Ability to conduct routine laboratory test.

Ability to understand and follow moderately complex oral and written instructions.

Ability to read meters, charts, and technical manuals and drawings accurately and to maintain records of shift operations.

Ability to operate light to medium equipment.

Ability to provide leadership in the absence of the Superintendent.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with peers and superiors.

Physical Requirements

Must be able to physically perform the basic life operational functions of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, grasping, and hearing.

Must be able to perform medium work exerting up to 50 pounds of force occasionally; and/or up to 20 pounds of force frequently; and/or up to 10 pounds of force constantly to move objects.

Must possess the visual acuity to read gauges, dials, and observe moving parts of machines, to operate a computer terminal and to record and review written records.

Desirable Education and Experience

Graduation from high school supplemented by course work in chemistry or biology and considerable experience in the operation, repair and maintenance of machinery and equipment in a wastewater treatment plant or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Requirements

Possession of a Wastewater Operator's Grade III level certificate from the State of North Carolina.

Possession of a valid North Carolina Driver's license.

Spindale

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