

Water System Operator

Distinguishing Features of the Class: Work involves the operation and maintenance of a Type III Wastewater Treatment Plant and a Grade II-A Water Treatment Plant. Position may be filled at a trainee level. During traineeship the individual will be expected to become familiar with the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to perform at a journey level. Traineeship is limited to eighteen months duration. Work is performed under general supervision of the Lead Operator, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of DPW and may include direct supervision over the work of others. Does related work as required.

Typical Work Activities:

Operates municipal water and wastewater treatment plants including all functions associated with such operations;

Collects samples of water & wastewater and performs various chemical and bacteriological analyses;

Performs mathematical analysis of data and applies interpretation of lab results to operational controls;

Maintains, repairs and adjusts all equipment to insure proper operation;

Handles and applies treatment chemicals;

Maintains Water System facilities and grounds;

Undertakes and maintains records and reports on various operations including those pertaining to laboratory analyses, equipment maintenance, preventive maintenance, repairs and state and local reports;

Ensures that proper safety practices are followed;

Assists in water system construction and maintenance projects;

May perform fieldwork including installation of water and sanitary mains, water services, sanitary laterals, hydrants and the locating of water mains and leaks;

Starts and stops wells, booster station pumps and water and wastewater treatment plant equipment;

Ensures proper operation of chemical pumps;

Maintains, repairs, adjust and calibrates automatic actuating equipment, instrumentation and control equipment;

Checks and regulates storage tanks and reservoirs;

Willingness to be on call and respond to emergency situations.

Full Performance knowledge, skills, abilities and personal characteristics:

Thorough knowledge of practices in the operations, maintenance and equipment of municipal water and wastewater treatment plants (type II-A water treatment and type III wastewater treatment plant) containing facilities for chemically treating of the water or wastewater. Thorough knowledge of laboratory practices associated with plant operations. Working knowledge of principles and application of physics, chemistry and bacteriology as applied to water and wastewater treatment and disposal. Ability to operate and repair pumps, valves, and related mechanical and electrical equipment. Ability to read, understand and record data from gauges, scales, charts, meters, and tables. Ability to make routine laboratory and field tests for control of plant operations. Ability to comprehend and carry out oral and written instructions. Ability to communicate effectively with superiors and subordinates. Mechanical aptitude, sound judgment, initiative, resourcefulness, integrity. Physical condition commiserates with demands of the position.

Minimum Qualifications:

1. Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma; and
2. Possession of a Grade II-A Water Treatment Plant Operations Certificate issued by the New York State Department of Health and a Grade II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators Certificate issued by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

Date approved

Date revised 4/25/2017, 11/12/2019

Classification - Competitive