



CLASS SPECIFICATION

Class Code: 60019510
Date Established: 07/2024
Last Reviewed:
Last Revised:
Last Title Change:
FLSA: non-exempt
Probation: 12 months

WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR III

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, performs operational duties and preventative maintenance on a complete range of plant equipment for the continuous operation of Washoe County wastewater treatment plants; provides lead direction over assigned staff; and performs related work as required.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Four years of experience in wastewater plant operations experience AND an associate degree from an accredited college or university in environmental science, chemistry, water resource management, environmental engineering technology, or a closely related field OR an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Graduation from high school or possession of a General Education Development (G.E.D.) Certificate, per NAC 445A.287.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE

A valid Class "C" State of Nevada Driver's License must be obtained within thirty days of appointment and must be maintained for continued employment in this classification.

A Nevada Grade III Wastewater Operator certificate is required at the time of appointment and must be maintained for continued employment in this classification.

A forklift certification is required at the time of appointment and must be maintained for continued employment in this classification.

Employees in this class are subject to drug and alcohol testing in accordance with applicable Washoe County policies.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Exercises lead direction.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES *(The following is used as a partial description and is not restrictive as to duties required.)*

Serve as lead operator for a full range of wastewater treatment plant equipment; perform advanced troubleshooting and preventative maintenance procedures; evaluate equipment and building conditions for asset management.

Provide lead direction to assigned staff; participate in interview process and make hiring recommendations; schedule staff to ensure proper staffing levels; provide training in work methods; ensure safety procedures are adhered to and conduct weekly safety meetings; oversee staff performance of duties; and provide input on performance evaluations and disciplinary matters.

Use flow controllers, mechanical means or manual means to regulate the flow of wastewater through multiple treatment processes; proficiently operate valves, pumps and other equipment as necessary; maintain flow rates to ensure maximum efficiency of equipment and processes.

Oversee and participate in the collection samples of influent and effluent process water at predetermined times; conduct and interpret process control tests and adjust plant operation accordingly.

Inspect assigned cleaning areas, create list of cleaning needs and implement a schedule with assigned shift to ensure the cleaning duties are completed.

Conduct standardized control tests; interpret process control tests and adjust plant operations accordingly.

Maintain records such as test results, plant operations, maintenance work performed and unusual operating conditions; maintain records associated with timekeeping, operations, goals and safety training.

Inspect treatment plant facilities and equipment and recognize unusual, inefficient or dangerous operating conditions; report any inadequacies or operating difficulties and take corrective action as needed; correct or report safety hazards as necessary; implement operating schedules and procedures to meet changing conditions and to ensure safe, effective, efficient and legal plant operations.

Interpret and understand complex distribution diagrams, plant piping and building and systems plans; read gauges, meters, charts and instruments.

Initiate requests for equipment repairs and work orders; start and stop equipment as required for repairs rehabilitation work and preventative maintenance.

May perform any of the Examples of Duties found on the Wastewater Plant Operator I and II job class specifications.

Ensure that assigned personnel perform duties and responsibilities in a safe and prudent manner, which does not expose them or others to unnecessary harm or risk of on-the-job injury.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Full Performance Level *(These may be acquired on the job and are needed to perform the work assigned.)*

Knowledge of:

Department/division policies, practices, and procedures.

Computer software specific to the department.

Washoe County wastewater treatment plant operations.

Ability to:

Lead, mentor, and train staff in the performance of operational duties and preventive maintenance.

Entry Level *(Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance, or other evaluation methods.)*

Knowledge of:

Principles and practices of wastewater treatment, operations, sampling and standard process control tests.

Treatment plant discharge permitting.

Wastewater sampling and standard process control tests.

Hydraulic, mechanical and electrical principles related to a wastewater treatment system.

Preventative maintenance and general shop procedures and techniques.

Occupational hazards and standard safety practices.

Safeguards and methods in handling and storing hazardous chemicals and basic preventative maintenance and basic shop techniques and procedures.

Ability to:

Evaluate work priorities, procedures, and processes to determine their effectiveness and efficiency.

Effectively oversee wastewater treatment plant work.

Safely drive or operate motor vehicles, portable pumping equipment and forklifts and all other specialized equipment as needed.

Adhere to all safety policies and practices at the treatment plants, including but not limited to confined space entry, lockout/tagout procedures; maintain awareness and compliance with Arc-flash protocols, blood borne pathogen protocols, and respiratory protection.

Exercise sound judgement within general policy guidelines.

Effectively handle multiple tasks simultaneously; prioritize and organize own workload to meet deadlines.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both verbally and in writing.

Understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Establish, maintain, and foster effective and positive working relationships with all those contacted in the course of work.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS *(Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment.)*

Ability to sit for extended periods. Ability to frequently stand, walk, stoop, squat and kneel. Ability to lift and move objects weighing up to 95 lbs. Ability and willingness to wear and use protective devices (e.g. gloves, masks, goggles, etc.). Manual dexterity to use hand tools and required equipment. Ability to work under conditions involving exposure to noise, dust, grease, infectious disease, and chemicals. Ability to work extensively outdoors with exposure to varying temperature and weather conditions. Ability to wear and work in self-contained breathing apparatus. Ability to work in confining spaces (e.g., manholes).

Ability to work in a biological, industrial, and chemical environment that could include any chemicals used in the wastewater treatment process. Duties require sufficient hearing, vision and manual dexterity to perform assigned duties and ample strength and stamina to climb ladders and stairways, stand and walk for extended periods of time and to maneuver hoses and other tools and equipment.

Must be available for call back, hold over, nights, weekends and holiday shifts as required. May be required to work during emergency circumstances or inclement weather conditions.

This class specification is used for classification, recruitment, and examination purposes. It is not to be considered a substitute for work performance standards.