

Title: Chief Wastewater Plant Operator
PG: 54
Status: Civil Service
Position Reports to: Manager of Wastewater Treatment
Department: Water Utilities

Class Code: 3122
Date: 09/08

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS:

This is skilled, technical, and supervisory work in the operation and maintenance of the City's wastewater treatment plants. This position requires shift work, including nights, weekends, and holidays as the treatment processes are operated on a continuous basis. An employee in this position has direct responsibility for plant operation and personnel on all work shifts. Accurate assessments and highly technical decisions must be made involving treatment processes, equipment utilization and repair, personnel safety, and public health. Work is performed under general administrative supervision and reviewed by periodic inspection and plant performance.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Supervises all operations personnel and directs plant operations for assigned treatment plant.
2. Performs highly technical tasks related to the treatment processes and equipment adjustment.
3. Calibrates and/or confirms proper operation of continuous recording equipment.
4. Determines operational status of equipment, requests and coordinates necessary electrical, mechanical, and instrumentation repairs.
5. Recommends alterations in equipment, operating processes, and schedules.
6. Maintains plant records, compiles and submits reports, prepares time sheets for subordinate employees; initiates requisitions, and performs other administrative duties.
7. Works in confined spaces or hazardous areas.
8. Lifts medium to heavy objects and climbs ladders and stairs.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Assists in monitoring lift station telemetry alarm system and dispatches emergency crews as necessary.
2. Inspects sludge application sites for regulations compliance.
3. Responsible to see that the requirements of the assigned plant's State of Florida and the USEPA are adhered to in the operation of the assigned Wastewater Treatment Plant.
4. Responsible to maintain State of Florida certification with regard to a Wastewater Operator's license.
5. Will be trained, assigned and shall be an active participant in the Department's Chlorine Emergency Response Team.
6. Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

1. Thorough knowledge of the operating principles, practices, and maintenance requirements of wastewater treatment plants and the mechanical, electrical, chemical, and instrumentation equipment.
2. Thorough knowledge of safety regulations, occupational hazards, precautions, and promotion of safety among subordinates.
3. Ability to schedule, coordinate, and direct activities of subordinate employees in accomplishing assigned tasks.
4. Ability to communicate with emergency response personnel and with the public during trouble events.
5. Ability to develop and conduct operators training.
6. Ability to work with computers and various software packages.
7. Ability to compose and write reports of a technical nature.
8. Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

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9. Ability to maintain harmonious relationships with supervisors, co-workers, other City employees and the general public.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:

Requires physical work that involves walking or standing some of the time, exerting up to 40 pounds of force on a recurring basis, routine keyboard operations.

The job risks exposure to chemical, biological, electrical and mechanical hazards. Employee will be required to work in bright/dim light and adverse weather conditions. Employee may also have frequent exposure to the general hazards of the industrial working environment and construction sites. The job requires normal visual acuity, and field of vision, hearing, speaking, color perception, sense of smell, depth perception, and texture perception.

QUALIFICATIONS (EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE):

1. High school diploma or its equivalent, supplemented by Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency approved training courses in wastewater plant operation processes.
2. Five (5) years of wastewater plant operations experience.
3. Must possess and maintain a state of Florida Class A wastewater plant operator certification.
4. Required to pass and maintain qualification for:
 - a. Respiratory Protection Physical
 - b. Pulmonary Function
 - c. Q and Q Fit Test(s), which requires "no facial hair which interferes with the device seal"
5. An equivalent combination of education and experience that is determined to be directly related to the foregoing specific requirements may be substituted.
6. One (1) year of supervisory experience.
7. Completion of City University Level one (1) or completion within twelve (12) months.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must and maintain a valid state of Florida driver's license.
2. Must maintain a valid telephone number.
3. May be required to work overtime, or alternate hours, as necessary for the efficient operation of the department. Position may be designated as Mission Critical by Department Director.