

Title: Wastewater Chemist
PG: 56
Status: Civil Service
Position Reports to:
Department: Water Utilities

Class Code: 2079
Date: 09/08

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS:

This is technical laboratory and analytical work at a professional level involving the performance of a variety of chemical, biological, and physical tests related to operations of the City Wastewater treatment facilities. Work involves responsibility for compliance in accordance with prescribed procedures and techniques as required by regulatory agencies. Employee exercises considerable independent judgment and is responsible for overseeing, supervising, and participating in the operations of the laboratory. Work is subject to periodic inspections by regulatory agencies.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Develops, interprets, and implements laboratory quality assurance/quality control programs as required.
2. Monitors safety, technical, and administrative requirements to meet and maintain state laboratory certification.
3. Provides supervision, maintains laboratory data base, work schedules and assigns work tasks.
4. Conducts specialized research tests aimed at improving wastewater treatment operations.
5. Oversees and participates in daily laboratory operations.
6. Insures that analysis results and related information/reports are logged, prepared, and distributed.
7. Interacts in activities related to industrial pretreatment and the billing of laboratory services and sewer charges.
8. Develops improved laboratory techniques and instructs personnel in the same.
9. Responsible for inventorying, budgeting, and ordering of laboratory equipment, materials, and supplies.
10. Monitors water sampling techniques and procedures.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

1. Thorough knowledge of standard laboratory principles, techniques, terminology, equipment, materials, and safety precautions.
2. Thorough knowledge of regulatory requirements related to the treatment and disposal of wastewater and sludge.
3. Thorough knowledge of environmental or biological sciences and strong background in analytical water chemistry.
4. Knowledge of apparatus and techniques used in field collection and testing for pollutants in natural waters, domestic and industrial wastewater effluents.
5. Ability to operate specialized laboratory equipment such as an Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer.
6. Ability to accurately perform standard chemical and biological analysis.
7. Ability to maintain and update computer data base and files pertaining to laboratory analysis.
8. Ability to perform statistical analyses and make detailed oral and written reports.
9. Ability to give concise oral and written instructions or to carry out same.
10. Ability to establish and maintain harmonious and effective working relationships with supervisors, co-workers, other City employees, and the general public.

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WORKING ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:

Requires sedentary work that involves walking or standing some of the time, exerting up to 10 pounds of force on a recurring basis, routine keyboard operations.

The job risks exposure to some significant environmental hazards to include chemicals, inside and outside environmental conditions, bright/dim lights and extreme noise levels.

The job requires normal visual acuity, field of vision, hearing, speaking, color perception, sense of smell, depth perception, and texture perception.

QUALIFICATIONS (EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE):

1. Graduation from an accredited four (4) year college or university with a major in chemistry, environmental sciences, or biology.
2. An equivalent combination of education and experience that is determined to be directly related to the foregoing specific requirements may be substituted.
3. Completion of City University Level one (1) or completion within twelve (12) months.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must possess a valid state of Florida driver's license.
2. Must maintain a valid home 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.