

Code: 2717

Title: WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR - SENIOR

SUMMARY: Operates, within limits of individual certification or system permit, all Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) facilities, equipment and related systems and equipment in a central WWTP or an independent or remote site. It is distinguished from WWTP Operator, which operates only selected or assigned WWTP equipment and sub-systems, and from Principal WWTP Operators who have full responsibility for a WWTP shift and are certified as primary operators for the systems.

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES: (Work assignments may vary depending on the department's needs and will be communicated to the applicant or incumbent by the supervisor.)

Operates wastewater treatment processing equipment and systems;
Interprets readings on metering devices and testing/analysis results and adjusts equipment operations as necessary;
Regulates sewage and sludge flow from thickeners to digesters;
Collects, labels and documents sampling of effluent of various treatment processes;
Assists shift supervisor and WWTP mechanics and maintenance specialists in evaluating and troubleshooting equipment malfunctions or breakdowns;
Makes mathematical calculations to measure and record wastewater flow;
Performs and documents basic process-control laboratory analysis of wastewater samples;
Coordinates system operation, maintenance and repair activities with shift supervisors, on-site operators and maintenance staff to maximize operational readiness and regulatory compliance;
Cleans up and maintains work and equipment areas;
Applies relevant industrial safety practices;
Performs compliance laboratory testing of wastewater samples requiring immediate analysis and initiates required remedial actions;
Maintains equipment and system operations, maintenance and repair logs;
May lead WWTP operators, mechanics and related maintenance staff in trouble-shooting, system diagnosis and repairs.

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS:

Knowledge of:

- principles of operation of wastewater treatment processes and equipment;
- regulatory requirements of NPDES, APP and Reuse Permits;
- operation of mechanical equipment;
- wastewater sampling and analysis techniques;
- basic mathematics;
- hazardous material handling and communication standards;
- relevant industrial safety practices;
- principles of the individual treatment processes used at the specific plant;
- principles and techniques of supervision.

Skill in:

- operating mechanical equipment;
- interpreting readings from metering devices and implementing appropriate adjustments in the treatment process;
- establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with other;
- maintaining operations, maintenance and repair logs;
- interpreting and applying technical guidance from plans, schematics and operating/maintenance manuals and instructions;
- following oral and written instructions;
- using industrial safety procedures on the job;

- trouble-shooting equipment malfunctions and performing operator-level repairs;
- communicating effectively, both orally and in writing;
- leading and assigning work to others.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

EITHER:

(1) Two years of college level course work from an accredited college or university in engineering, biological sciences, chemical sciences or a related field and six months of experience in secondary wastewater treatment or mechanical maintenance activities.

OR:

(2) Two years of experience with Pima County as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator.

OR:

(3) Holding a current Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Grade 2 (or higher) Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator certification and one year of experience in wastewater treatment plant operations or maintenance.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Licenses and Certificates: All positions require a valid Arizona Class D Driver's License. Some positions may require a valid ADEQ Grade 2 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator certificate at time of appointment. Some positions may require a valid Class B Arizona Commercial Driver's License, with appropriate endorsement. Failure to maintain the required license/certification shall be grounds for termination.

Special Notice Items: Some positions may carry the risk of exposure to infectious diseases, asbestos or wastewater and sewage products, therefore special medical screening prior to or during employment may be necessary to assure employee health and safety.

Physical/Sensory Requirements: All positions require the ability to lift up to seventy-five pounds for brief periods. Some positions require the ability to enter and work in confined spaces, which may require the proper wearing of individual safety and protective equipment.

This classification specification is intended to indicate the basic nature of positions allocated to the classification and examples of typical duties that may be assigned. It does not imply that all positions within the classification perform all of the duties listed, nor does it necessarily list all possible duties that may be assigned.