

WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR

NATURE OF WORK

This is responsible skilled work in a wastewater treatment facility.

Positions of this class are responsible for the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment equipment, together with collecting of samples, conducting laboratory tests, reflecting status of treatment by maintaining records of operations as required regulations and for identifying operational flows and defects in the operating systems and components. The employee of this class works around unpleasant odors, various chemicals, and in varying weather conditions. Work is performed during the daytime, but it may be necessary for the operator to be available in the evenings or on the weekend to correct operational problems. Work is performed in accordance with established policy and procedure subject to check by a supervisor.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK {Employees of this classification must be able to perform the following physical and mental tasks related to these functions will be required. The following examples do not contain every task that could be reasonable assigned. The absence of a specific task here does not imply the task cannot be assigned if related to the nature of work, a logical assignment, or a business necessity.}

Operates wastewater plant equipment, such as, bar screens, conveyors, screw pumps, polymer mixing and feed equipment, sludge pumps, aeration tanks, gravity sludge thickeners, belt presses, compressors and other related equipment.

Performs necessary operations as required or directed in conjunction with electrical panel controls, electric, hydraulic or mechanical valves, pumps or gates to ensure proper operation of the settling, aeration, and sludge digestion processes.

Performs routine and minor repairs to various items of equipment, maintain a scheduled periodic check of equipment and systems.

Performs painting, cleaning, mowing, etc. in the routine upkeep or the physical maintenance of the plant. Cleans assigned work areas to ensure safe and sanitary conditions.

Performs sampling and testing of effluent or water such as dissolved oxygen, sludge volume index, and mixed liquor tests; makes adjustments to systems as required for proper operation, recording temperatures, sample results and other data.

Attends training sessions, listens to talks and lectures on the subject, reads textbooks, manuals, and other training material. Performs related work as assigned.

NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge of the operation of sewage treatment facilities. Considerable knowledge of the practices, methods, materials, and tools of mechanical trades and performance of preventative maintenance of plant systems and equipment.

Some knowledge of physical chemical testing methods and elementary laboratory procedures. Some knowledge of the basic trades such as plumbing, painting, and electrical circuits.

Ability to make accurate readings, keep necessary records and to make mathematical computations. Ability to learn and retain wastewater treatment nomenclature. Ability to collect, inspect, record, and report necessary information.

Ability to understand and follow moderately complex oral and written instructions. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees and the public.

Skill in the loading, transfer, and unloading of various materials and equipment.

Possession of appropriate driver's license as required by the Department of Public Safety, State of Louisiana, prior to appointment. Possession of and the ability to maintain Class III certification in Wastewater Treatment issued by the State of Louisiana.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Graduation from high school or GED equivalent including or supplemented by courses in chemistry or equivalent course work; three years experience in the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities or related experience, or any equivalent combination of education, training and experience accepted under the Louisiana State Operator certification law.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Maintain a functional telephone in his/her residence.
2. Pass the Class III Wastewater Treatment examination for permanent certification as administered by the State of Louisiana within two years after appointment or allocation to this position.