

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

SUMMARY: Performs intermediate to complex technical work to learn, operate, and maintain wastewater treatment plant equipment, performing routine tests, performing general plant and grounds maintenance tasks, and related work as apparent or assigned at the Gordonsville Wastewater Treatment Plant in Gordonsville, VA. Work is performed under general supervision.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily and in accordance with Federal, State, and Local regulations. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Other duties may also be assigned.

- Makes tours of plant and checks engines, generators, pumps, aerators, tanks, clarifiers and other equipment for proper functioning.
- Operates and maintains wastewater equipment used in treatment and solids handling.
- Performs assigned tasks related to permits and regulatory compliance including documentation, sampling, analysis, recordkeeping, and reports; maintains and checks logs and records for accuracy and completeness.
- Checks and records readings from meters, gauges, and instruments; operates handheld meters; reads and records data on plant operations.
- Pumps sludge, cleans and clears basins, clarifiers, troughs, etc.
- Checks machinery and pumps for proper operation.
- Starts, stops, and/or adjusts motors, pumps, and other plant equipment according to changes in operating conditions.
- Adds chemicals per prescribed standards.
- Observes and collects samples of wastewater effluent; performs simple biological, chemical, and physical laboratory tests; enters test results.
- Performs minor equipment adjustments and repairs.
- Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Education and/or Experience: High school diploma or GED and minimal experience in the operation and maintenance of machinery and equipment, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Certificates, Licenses and Registrations: Possession of a valid and appropriate driver's license. A Class III Wastewater Works Operator license is preferred.

Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:

- Knowledge of the operating characteristics and maintenance requirements of a wastewater treatment plant.
- Knowledge of hydraulic, chemical, and mechanical principles pertinent to wastewater treatment plant operations.
- Knowledge of the occupational hazards of the work and of the necessary safety precautions.
- Skill in the use and care of hand tools.

- Ability to read and comprehend. Ability to speak and communicate effectively using correct English.
- Ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide in all units of measure, using whole numbers, common fractions and decimals.
- Ability to pass a red and green color blindness test and to work with hazardous chemicals.
- Ability to detect flaws in the operation of mechanical equipment and to determine proper remedial measures.
- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Ability to read meters and charts accurately and to maintain records of shift operations.

PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Required Physical Activities: Requires moderate physical effort working regularly with lightweight materials and occasionally with heavy weight materials (over 60 pounds) including but not limited to walking, talking, climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, bending, crouching, lifting, hoisted, pushing and pulling.

Vision Requirements: Minimum requirements set by the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Environmental Conditions: Work is conducted indoors and outdoors under variable weather conditions. Frequently works near moving mechanical parts and is occasionally exposed to noise, wet and/or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, vibration, risk of electrical shock and toxic or caustic chemicals.

EQUIPMENT ESSENTIAL TO DO THE JOB: Basic hand tools, diagnostic tools, calculator, computer, printers, copiers, analytical laboratory equipment, and other facility-specific equipment and chemicals.

COMPENSATION: Will be based on experience and level of licensure. Rapidan Service Authority offers a comprehensive benefits package, including Virginia Retirement System.

NOTE: This classification specification is not intended to be all-inclusive. An employee will also perform other reasonably-related job responsibilities as assigned and required by management. Rapidan Service Authority reserves the right to revise or change job duties as the need arises. Moreover, management reserves the right to change job descriptions, job duties or working schedules based on their duty to accommodate individuals with disabilities. This classification specification does not constitute a written contract of employment.