

Wastewater Operator Trainee Requirements

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Under immediate supervision of Wastewater Operator.

1. Performs a variety of skilled and semi-skilled tasks in the maintenance and operation of the Township's sanitary sewer system and wastewater treatment plant.

Description of the Position

This is the entry level class in the Wastewater Operator series. This class is distinguished from the Wastewater Operator by the performance of the more routine tasks and duties assigned to positions within this series. Employees at this level are not expected to perform with the same independence of direction and judgment on matters related to established procedures and guidelines as are positions allocated to the Operator level. Since this class is typically used as a training class, employees may have only limited or no direct related work experience. Employees work under immediate supervision while learning job tasks.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES

The following duties are typical for this classification. Incumbents may not perform all of the listed duties and/or may be required to perform additional or different duties from those set forth below to address operational needs and changing business practices.

1. Operate and adjust controls on treatment plant equipment and machinery, such as valves, pumps and motors under supervision.
2. Grease and clean plant equipment; read and interpret meters and gauges.
3. Monitor, repair, and maintain wastewater system lift stations; remove debris; disassemble and clean pumps perform minor repairs when necessary.
4. Respond to emergency calls as needed; locate problems and operate bypass pumping equipment in case of pump failure.
5. Collect samples and perform various lab tests.
6. Inspect and make repairs to plant equipment.
7. Perform general plant maintenance work such as sweeping, cleaning, sanding and painting of equipment and facilities.
8. Perform general grounds maintenance work.
9. Enter and work in permitted confined spaces.
10. Locate, mark and notify sewer lines per PA One Call requirements.
11. Observe and enforce safety precautions
12. Operate trucks and loaders (training will be provided, as necessary).
13. Perform additional duties as required.

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QUALIFICATIONS

The following generally describes the knowledge and ability required to enter the job and/or be learned within a short period of time in order to successfully perform the assigned duties.

Knowledge of:

1. Basic principles and practices of mechanical, electrical and hydraulic systems.
2. Occupational hazards and standard safety practices.
3. Motor vehicle, generators, pumps, gauges, common hand and power tools, shovels, wrenches, detection devices, phone, calculator, and a variety of lab equipment.
4. Operation and routine maintenance of wastewater treatment equipment and sanitary sewers.
5. Wastewater sampling and routine process control tests.
6. Mechanical, electrical and hydraulic principles related to the operation of wastewater treatment equipment.

Ability to:

1. Perform wastewater treatment plant and sewer system maintenance duties.
2. Perform wastewater treatment operational mathematics.
3. Operate trucks and related equipment efficiently and safely.
4. Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
5. Recognize inefficient, unusual or dangerous operating conditions.
6. Work independently in the absence of supervision.
7. Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
8. Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Education and Experience Guidelines

Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Education/Training:

1. Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade.

Experience:

1. No experience is required. Municipal utility maintenance experience is desirable.

License or Certificate:

1. Possession of a valid Class C driver's license.
2. Must become a PADEP Licensed Wastewater Operator **within 12 months** of beginning employment.

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PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT:

The conditions herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential job functions.

Environment: Work is performed in an indoor plant and an outdoor field environment; travel from site to site; exposure to noise, dust, grease, smoke, fumes, noxious odors, gases, mechanical and electrical hazards, and all types of weather and temperature conditions; work in or around water; exposure to hazardous traffic conditions; work and/or walk on various types of surfaces including slippery or uneven surfaces and rough terrain; work at heights; incumbents may be required to respond to emergency and public calls after hours including evenings and weekends.

Physical: Primary functions require sufficient physical ability and mobility to work in a field environment; to walk, stand, and sit for prolonged periods of time; to frequently stoop, bend, kneel, crouch, crawl, climb, reach, twist, grasp, and make repetitive hand movement in the performance of daily duties; to climb unusual heights on ladders; to lift, carry, push, and/or pull moderate to heavy amounts of weight; to operate assigned equipment and vehicles; and to verbally communicate to exchange information.

Vision: See in the normal visual range with or without correction.

Hearing: Hear in the normal audio range with or without correction.

Basic Math Skills: Candidate must be able to show that they are capable of general mathematics, algebra and some geometry in line with the requirements of a wastewater operator's daily duties.