

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST II

NATURE OF WORK

This is responsible technical work collecting water/wastewater samples and inspecting utility lines.

Work involves field coordination and assisting with the collection, preservation and transportation of industrial and domestic wastewater samples; internal inspection of existing and newly constructed utility lines using closed circuit television equipment and/or smoke and dye testing; installation, calibration and maintenance of flow measuring equipment; assisting with the tracking of chemical spills and/or unusual waste discharges to the sanitary or storm sewer systems; and assisting in special water quality studies. Work is distinguished from related classifications by a higher level of skill required in the efficient operation of equipment. Supervision is received from a technical or administrative superior who assigns and may inspect work in progress or upon completion. Employees of this class are expected to use considerable independent judgment in carrying out familiar or routine assignments to assure subordinate crew members comply with established work schedules, safety procedures and performance standards. An employee in this class may act for higher level employees in their absence.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Acts as lead person in the absence of a higher level technical superior.

Coordinates the collection, preservation and transportation of samples for laboratory analysis; records field information associated with industrial discharges, chemical spills, water quality studies and treatment plant operations.

Coordinates and assists with the installation of specialized field equipment designed for the purpose of collecting water and wastewater samples.

Interprets and communicates to administrative superiors field conditions which may be of concern to other City operations and to the general public.

Coordinates field activities and assists with the installation, calibration and maintenance of specialized electronic equipment in accordance with manufacturer specifications and OSHA safety guidelines.

Coordinates and assists with the inspection of newly constructed sanitary sewer lines, using closed circuit TV inspection equipment; inspects existing sanitary and storm sewer utilities to review the internal condition of sewer lines and to identify areas in need of cleaning, repairs or replacements; inspects other areas that can conflict with identified repaving, street widening and/or other special capital improvement projects.

Assists with the response to emergency situations such as chemical and/or petroleum spills and excessive rainfalls.

Assists with basic surveying work in order to check sewer grades and elevations, and to locate utility objects, etc.

Assists with smoke and dye testing activities for the purpose of identifying cross connections of storm and sanitary sewers and other sources of infiltration/inflow to the sanitary sewer system.

Utilizes a microcomputer and various software in order to: prepare daily reports; maintain a database of work performed; enter data collected during daily field activities; download information from flow recording equipment; calibrate and maintain specialized electronic programmable equipment.

Follows appropriate confined space entry requirements as outlined in the City's comprehensive safety guidelines; determines the necessary level of testing, monitoring and communication based on each individual work site.

Maintains written records of various field activities; organizes and properly labels video recordings; and maintains a filing system of all worksheets and field information.

Cleans, maintains and organizes vehicles and field equipment, making minor repairs and adjustments as needed.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Considerable knowledge in the areas of calibration and operation of the various field and laboratory devices utilized in the treatment, testing and collection of water and/or wastewater samples.

Considerable knowledge of the hazards and of the applicable OSHA safety rules and precautions.

Considerable knowledge of water and wastewater sampling and testing techniques and procedures.

Considerable knowledge of computer spreadsheets, databases, word processing and operating systems, and the ability to learn specialized applications to retrieve data, prepare routine reports, record observations, and analyze information utilizing desktop and portable microcomputers and various software.

Knowledge of electronic equipment, closed circuit TV equipment, and of the materials and supplies used in utility line inspection.

Knowledge of the various standard testing devices utilized in confined space entry.

Ability to plan and execute work efficiently and to communicate effectively both orally and in writing.

Ability to work independently or as a member of a crew and establish and maintain effective working relationships with government officials, supervisors, co-workers and the general public.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a vocational/technical school with a combination of coursework in environmental science or technology, biology, chemistry, mathematics, construction practices or related field with six months of experience in the wastewater treatment field; or a minimum of two years of experience as an Environmental Specialist I and successful completion of departmental requirements for advancement to this classification; or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENT

Possession of a valid driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

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