

FLSA: NON EXEMPT
PAY RANGE: 24
PAY CODE: HOURLY
WC/CODE: 7580

**CITY OF WHARTON
WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR I**

*Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are **not** intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.*

DEFINITION

To perform a variety of semi-skilled technical duties and manual labor in the operation and maintenance of the city's wastewater treatment plants and related facilities.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from the Water Utilities Director.

Exercises no supervision.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES--*Important responsibilities and duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:*

Essential duties and responsibilities

- . Perform inspections of wastewater treatment plant and facilities; monitor and document plant operations; read plant equipment gauges, dials, graphs and other instrumentation.
- . Operate and adjust treatment plant pumps, motors, feeders and other equipment; maintain appropriate basin level; operate front-end loader and backhoe on line repair.
- . Document amount of chemicals used; report material or equipment needs to supervisor; monitor the chlorinator and chlorine cylinders for leaks.
- . Collect liquid samples; assist in performing a variety of routine water or wastewater quality laboratory tests.
- . Perform process control testing including pH, alkalinity, hardness, specific conductance, turbidity, chlorine, residual, carbon dioxide and coagulant jar test.
- . Perform regulatory related pH tests on influent and effluent content.

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Wastewater Plant Operator (Continued)

- . Maintain accurate daily, weekly and monthly logs recording plant operations; prepare required reports.
- . Assist maintenance staff with repairs and maintenance of facility and equipment; assist in disconnecting service on delinquent accounts.
- . Monitor all electrical equipment; operate belt press machine.
- . Conduct lab work involving the connection of chlorine gas cylinders and sodium bisulfate chemical.
- . Respond and resolve customer complaints.

Other important duties and responsibilities

- . Perform minor preventive maintenance including cleaning and lubricating plant equipment.
- . Assist in cleaning and maintaining plant facilities.
- . Assist supervisory staff with chemical, equipment and supply inventories.
- . Assist in reading meters.
- . Perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Principles and practices of wastewater treatment plant operations.

Operating principles of plant equipment such as valves, pumps and motors.

Basic principles of chemistry, biology and mathematics.

Basic laboratory analysis techniques as it relates to water and wastewater treatment.

Safe work practices.

Water sampling methods and techniques.

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Wastewater Plant Operator (Continued)

Federal, state and local laws, codes and regulations related to wastewater treatment and quality.

Ability to:

Operate and maintain wastewater treatment plant facilities and equipment.

Read and interpret gauges and other recording devices at treatment plants and facilities.

Take liquid samples and perform routine laboratory tests.

Recognize and react to treatment process changes and demands.

Learn federal, state and local laws, codes and regulations related to water and wastewater treatment and quality.

Learn standard plant operations procedures.

Learn to read meters and gauges correctly.

Learn to conduct basic laboratory tests.

Maintain records and compile data.

Communicate clearly and concisely.

Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Ability to:

Work shifts including evenings and weekends.

Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for:

- *making observations*
- *reading and writing*
- *operating assigned equipment*
- *communicating with others.*

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Wastewater Plant Operator (Continued)

Maintain mental capacity which permits:

- *making sound decisions and using good judgement*
- *analyzing and evaluating data*
- *reading and interpreting meters and gauges and responding appropriately.*

Maintain physical condition appropriate to the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities which may include the following:

- *walking, standing or sitting for extended periods of time*
- *climbing ladders or stairs*
- *lifting and moving light to moderately heavy materials and equipment*
- *operating assigned vehicles and equipment.*

Effectively handle a work environment and conditions which involve exposure to:

- *hazardous and toxic fumes and chemicals*
- *electrical hazards*
- *loud noises*
- *some exposure to temperature extremes*
- *dust, dirt, grease and oil*
- *high work places*
- *vibrations.*

Experience and Training Guidelines

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

Experience:

One to two years of experience performing wastewater treatment duties.

Training:

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by specialized training in wastewater treatment operations.

License or Certificate

Possession of a valid Class C Waste Water Treatment Certificate for major plant.

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Wastewater Plant Operator (Continued)

WORKING CONDITIONS

Environmental Conditions:

Wastewater treatment plant environment; exposure to potentially hazardous chemicals; work with water.

Physical Conditions:

Essential and other important duties and responsibilities require maintaining physical condition necessary for sitting, standing, walking, lifting, stooping or bending for prolonged periods of time.