

## **WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR**

### **General Statement of Duties**

Performs responsible skilled and technical work in the operation of a water treatment plant.

### **Distinguishing Features of the Class**

Employees in this class perform a variety of operational, maintenance and laboratory duties designed to produce a safe and adequate supply of properly treated water. Work is performed on assigned or rotating shifts and includes monitoring the plant's operations through observation, mechanical reading and the results of standard chemical and biological tests and making necessary adjustments in the process as demand or other operational conditions dictate. Work also includes a variety of equipment, grounds and facility maintenance. Employees maintain records of work activities and test results. Work is performed in accordance with regulations of the State Division of Health Services and the State Division of Environmental Management. Work is performed on varying shifts and under general supervision. Employees work in inside and outside environments, are subject to extreme hot and cold weather and are exposed to various hazards such as loud noises, moving mechanical parts, electrical current, chemicals, fumes, odors, dusts, mists, poor ventilation, working in small spaces such as water mains and oils. Workers may be required to wear respirators when changing chlorine or other chemical tanks. Work is evaluated on the basis of water quality, supply, standard logs and records and the adherence to established operating policy.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

#### **Essential Duties and Tasks:**

Operates the water plant; observes the operation of water pumps, electric motors and chemical feed machines; backwashes filters; calibrates equipment.

Collects samples and performs standard analyses and tests; keeps precise records and interprets results.

Reads various charts, graphs, gauges and meters; computes from readings and records the water volume pumped; monitors elevated storage tank level.

Performs standard repairs and maintenance of plant equipment; may assist with more difficult or complex equipment repair or replacement.

Receives and unloads chemical deliveries to the plant; assures proper storage; fills,

cleans and replaces tanks of chemical and other tanks.

Mows grass around plant and associated facilities; operates trimmer; performs custodial care of building including sweeping and mopping floors, dusting and cleaning windows and restrooms.

Checks wells and performs preventive maintenance; responds to customer complaints about water color, odor, taste and other issues; participates in distribution sampling program; changes chlorine cylinders; identified equipment and supply needs.

**Additional Job Duties:**

Performs related duties as required.

**Recruitment and Selection Guidelines**

**Knowledges, Skills and Abilities:**

Some knowledge of state laws regulating water purification and the standard procedures necessary to meet permitted requirements.

Some knowledge of the operation and maintenance requirements of equipment, instruments and control devices used in water treatment.

Some knowledge of the standard tests and equipment used in required laboratory analysis of water.

Ability to solve routine technical or operational problems.

Ability to perform and conduct standard laboratory tests.

Ability to understand and interpret sometimes detailed and procedural oral and written instructions.

Ability to prepare detailed records and reports accurately.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers and superiors.

**Physical Requirements:**

Must be able to perform the basic physical life functions of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, reaching, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, fingering, grasping, feeling, talking and hearing.

Must be able to perform medium work exerting up to fifty (50) pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to twenty (20) pounds of force frequently and/or up to ten (10) pounds of force constantly to move objects.

Must possess visual acuity necessary to read charts, gauges and dials, to inspect small moving parts and to compete and read a variety of records and reports.

**Desirable Education and Experience:**

Possession of valid North Carolina driver's license

Possession of level B well water treatment operator certification.

Three (3) to five (5) year plant operator experience preferred.