



JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN
STATUS: Union/FLSA Non-Exempt
GRADE: Grade 14

JOB SUMMARY:

Responsible for conducting the testing, chlorination, sampling, and flushing of the District's water supply, conveyance, and distribution system. Assists the Water Quality Field Operations Manager with planning, directing, maintenance, operation, and coordination of activities related to all water quality system operations. Monitors the District's Cross Connection Control Program to prevent water supply contamination through hazard analysis, the elimination or mitigation of all known hazards, and by maintaining a cross connection database. Prepares reports and assists with budget preparation as directed.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS:

This position reports to the Water Quality Field Operations Manager and receives instructions and work assignments from the Lead Water Quality Technician.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES include the following.

- Works collaboratively with department peers to accomplish department goals;
- Collects and tests all compliance samples;
- Performs tests to determine chlorine residuals, turbidity, and fluoride levels, and records results;
- Operates, monitors and maintains disinfection and related equipment; takes readings and records results; evaluates collected data and makes adjustments as needed. Reports corrective action taken;
- Observes water system and tests on-site chlorine analyzers for proper operation, examines disinfection sites and equipment, and reports corrective action taken;
- Monitors and tests the water distribution system;
- Performs flushing of sections of water systems; plans dechlorination scheduling and dechlorination;
- With occasional consultation investigates and diagnoses customer problems and complaints related to cross connection, water quality, turbidity, taste and odor, rust, and pressure; performs tests, flushes pipes or arranges for repairs;
- Under direction monitors, maintains and adjusts special control valves such as pressure reducing and altitude valves;
- Assists Fire Districts and District Engineering Department in checking water pressure and flows throughout the District; controls water flows during testing; and maintains testing records;
- Maintains Water Quality records system, including records of inspections, monitoring activities, and tests;

- Performs cross connection control inspections to ensure public water system protection from contamination; ensures conformance with federal, state, and local cross connection regulations;
- Maintains knowledge of current rules and regulations to ensure backflow assemblies are properly installed to protect against back-siphonage and back-pressure;
- Maintains accurate backflow assembly certification records; maintains files of all assemblies installed including history of premises, correspondence and test results; ensures timely testing of backflow assemblies;
- Performs a variety of standard field cross connection inspections and other water quality considerations; takes water samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis; recommends corrective measures;
- Ensures compliance with requirements of state-mandated cross connection control program;
- Assists or responds to persons or agencies requesting compliance with regulations;
- Prepares correspondence and reports regarding cross connection control water quality; reviews reports and files; enters data into computers; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of:

- Principles and practices of cross connection control, disinfection and disinfection systems;
- Design and maintenance of disinfection equipment and problems associated with disinfection systems;
- Laws, regulations and standards related to cross connection control, disinfection and testing of public water supplies;
- DOH and EPA reporting requirements;
- District's water system layout; modern utility construction, installation and repair methods, procedures, practices and techniques;
- District's computer systems and software;
- Basic chemistry, biology and hydraulics;
- Industrial First Aid; and
- Safety and health hazards as related to cross connection control, disinfectant reactions, disinfection equipment and processes.

Skill in:

- Water sampling;
- Establishing and maintaining effective interpersonal relationships with all organizational levels, District customers, and the public;
- Communication, both written and oral, and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction;
- Operating and maintaining cross connection and disinfection equipment;
- Troubleshooting cross-connection, water quality and water supply systems problems;
- Report writing, preparing and presenting instructional materials;
- Using computers and related software applications;
- Record maintenance; and
- Applying basic hydraulics to water mains and residential plumbing.

Experience/Education:

Any equivalent combination of education and experience that provides the applicant with the knowledge, skills and abilities required to perform the job. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be three years experience in water disinfection, testing and sampling of a water supply, cross-connection control and water system flushing; training in cross-connection control, water quality and disinfection equipment and systems; and a High School Diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED).

Licensing Requirements:

Possess and maintain a Valid Washington State Driver's License, a Cross-connection Control Certification, and the ability to earn a Flagger Card, Forklift Certification, Washington State Water Distribution Manager II Certification, and an Industrial First Aid/CPR Card within one year of employment.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Duties are primarily performed in the field with exposure to varying weather conditions and temperatures, heights, confined spaces, fumes, unpleasant odors, loud noises, hazardous materials, chemicals and travel. Visual inspection of the work site is required. Subject to 24 hour call back for emergencies.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

This position typically requires climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, reaching, standing, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, finger dexterity, grasping, feeling, talking, hearing, seeing and repetitive motions.

Heavy Work: Exerting up to 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects.

Approved: May 6, 2002
Revised: March 29, 2019