



JOB TITLE: Treatment Operator
DEPARTMENT: Treatment Operations
REPORTS TO: Treatment Operations Manager
FLSA STATUS: Non-Exempt

SUMMARY OF POSITION

The primary function of the position is to perform or assist with the semi-skilled or skilled technical operations of the wastewater treatment facility, advanced water treatment facility, and reclaimed water distribution and disposal facilities. This position may serve as the operator-in-charge during any given shift when a Lead Operator is not available. The incumbent is guided by assignments received from the Treatment Operations Manager and Lead Operator(s) but exercises considerable independent judgment in accomplishing the work. This is a District safety-sensitive position in accordance with Arizona law.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Performs duties and responsibilities commensurate with assigned department which may include, but are not limited to, any combination of the following:

- Assists in the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant, advanced water treatment facility, and reclaimed water distribution and disposal facilities.
- Assists in developing and implementing techniques and methods of process control which increase plant efficiency.
- Works with hazardous chemicals such as chlorine gas, bleach in solid or liquid form, caustic soda, citric acid, polymers, and various cleaners and herbicides in the operation and maintenance of treatment facilities.
- Performs sampling and laboratory analyses of wastewater in various stages of treatment for process and compliance control.
- Coordinates and assists with equipment repair or replacement with the Maintenance Department such that plant effluent quality limits are maintained.
- Monitors gauges, meters, control panels, recorders, etc., observing variations in operating conditions and makes operational adjustments as necessary.
- Utilizes advanced SCADA graphing and observational techniques to forecast future treatment facility process adjustments.
- Safely and correctly operates District equipment such as fork trucks, backhoe/loaders, and aerial lifts.
- Observes the work of others contracted to work on treatment facilities and provides needed documentation and operational insight.
- Prepares daily, monthly, quarterly, and annual reports as needed.
- Assists in the plant safety program and is responsible for shift activities related to safety.
- Assists in training and development of new Treatment Operators and Trainees.
- Learns the requirements of the facility's Aquifer Protection Permit and Underground Storage Facility permit.
- Prepares and completes work orders for the preventative maintenance and repairs of equipment using the Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS).
- Initiates requisitions for tools, materials, equipment, and services following District policies and procedures.
- Initiates and complete work tasks such that the facility appearance is well-maintained and work environment is safe, clean, and orderly including washing equipment and machinery, painting, grounds maintenance and other custodial duties of facilities and common areas, such as break and locker rooms.

- May need to respond to emergency or abnormal facility situations outside of normal work shifts.
- Works rotating shifts which may include day, night, weekend, and holiday hours.
- Required to be “on-call” and carry a District phone and/or laptop on a rotating basis.
- Drives District vehicles in accordance with District policy as needed.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge of District policies and procedures.
- Knowledge of the methods, materials, tools, and equipment used in the operation, maintenance, inspection, repair, and installation of wastewater treatment plant components.
- Knowledge of the mechanical, biological, and chemical processes involved in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant.
- Knowledge of the operational practices and principles of advanced treatment processes such as ultra-filtration membranes and UV disinfection.
- Knowledge of the occupational hazards in wastewater treatment plants and safety measures to be implemented.
- Ability to work with raw sewage and chemicals using appropriate protective equipment and direct the safety actions of subordinates, contractors, and others while on District property.
- Ability to operate and maintain equipment used in wastewater treatment process.
- Ability to learn to read and interpret engineering specifications and drawings pertaining to plant expansions and improvements.
- Ability to recognize equipment and process problems and form sound decisions based upon previous experience and proper judgement.
- Ability to recognize needed repairs and direct work of others in the repair process.
- Ability to perform, analyze, and interpret laboratory tests for the purpose of making operational adjustments.
- Ability to complete required OSHA and other safety training classes.
- Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions in the English language.
- Basic knowledge of software programs and applications including Microsoft Office products and web-based programs.
- Ability to work cooperatively and professionally with all other District employees, vendors, and the public.

WORK ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Work is performed in a plant/field setting, frequently outdoors, with occasional work done in an office environment.
- Ability to work in a wide variety of weather conditions and exposure to the elements.
- Ability to lift and move heavy objects short distances (30 pounds unassisted and up to 100 pounds assisted).
- Ability to support 50 pounds overhead.
- Ability to obtain and maintain certification to wear respirator & SCBA equipment in accordance with OSHA requirements.
- Ability to work in small, cramped spaces and comply with confined space entry procedures.
- Ability to safely drive District vehicles and operate equipment such as fork trucks, front end loaders/backhoes and aerial lift equipment.
- Ability to use common hand tools and equipment for operation and maintenance tasks such as:

hammers, power drills, screwdrivers, power saws, pressure washers, etc.

- Ability to wear protective equipment as required, such as a respirator, hard hats, safety-rated steel-toed boots, and retrieval harness.
- Sufficient body flexibility, mobility, stamina, and balance to perform operation and maintenance tasks which require moderate, though not constant physical effort, typically involving some combination of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, climbing stairs and ladders, lifting, carrying, pushing and/or pulling of objects and materials of moderate to heavy weight, walking over uneven terrain.
- Visual and muscular dexterity to operate a motor vehicle, equipment, hand tools and computer.
- Sufficient clarity of hearing, with or without reasonable accommodation, which permits the employee to discern verbal instructions, communicate with other employees and the public, and discern warning or emergency alarms, including vehicle back-up warnings.
- Sufficient visual acuity, with or without reasonable accommodation, which permits the employee to comprehend written work instructions and work orders, technical and operational documents, discern color-coded equipment indicators, and move over rough or unfamiliar terrain.
- Sufficient manual dexterity, with or without reasonable accommodation, which permits the employee to operate a variety of power and hand tools to adjust or maintain equipment,

REQUIRED CREDENTIALS, EDUCATION AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- High school diploma or GED equivalency.
- Must possess and maintain a Wastewater Treatment Operator Certification from Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.
- Ability to obtain and maintain certification to wear respirator & SCBA equipment in accordance with OSHA requirements.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- This is a safety sensitive position that must pass a post offer/pre-employment drug screening, background check and physical.
- This position is subject to random drug and alcohol testing throughout the period of employment in accordance with the District's Drug-Free Workplace Policy.
- This position requires the use of District vehicles for business. A valid, unrestricted driver's license with no major citations within the past 39 months prior to the start date is required.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

FHSD is an equal opportunity employer. FHSD shall employ, without discrimination as to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform essential job functions.

DISCLAIMER

Some incumbents may not perform all the duties listed or may perform related duties as assigned. This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the position change.