

CITY OF SALEM
0515 WATER TREATMENT OPERATOR

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled work in the operation and maintenance of a large surface water treatment facility.

Work involves responsibility for large slow sand water treatment facility. Work includes responsibility for making decisions concerning slow sand filter operation and maintenance, chemical feed system operation and maintenance, and making adjustments based upon a reading of instruments, sample evaluation, and gauges. This is not a supervisory classification, however incumbents may direct the work of others for special maintenance of water facilities or assist in training others. Supervision is received from an administrative supervisor through operating parameters and specific objectives.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK

(Any single position of a class will not usually involve all of the essential duties listed and many positions will involve essential duties that are not listed.)

Operates and maintains equipment of a water purification system, including pumps, motors, valves, filters, canals, chemical feed systems, generators, and laboratory on-line equipment process instrumentation.

Performs routine laboratory analysis of raw water and finished water quality, adjust purification system based on analysis and operating perimeters set by supervisor.

Observes variations in physical condition of reservoirs, pumps, canals, operating conditions and interprets test results, meter readings, gauges, and makes necessary adjustment to ensure the proper quality and quantity of water is delivered for daily use. Communicates with supervisor on a daily basis of the conditions of the water purification and transmission system.

Maintains system operation and maintenance records, diagnoses equipment malfunctions, takes remedial action, and reports problems to the supervisor.

Participates in the installation, cleaning, maintenance, and repair of water gates, filter basins, roads, bridges, and other equipment or components at the treatment facility.

May analyze the impact of mining operations, logging activity, or other development activities up stream from the City's water source for impact on the watershed and source of municipal drinking water. Presents recommendations to supervisor for approval and input into the permit processes for maintaining water quality.

Performs routine maintenance functions.

Performs other related work as required.

WORK QUALIFICATIONS

Experience in the operation of water filter plant (preferably slow sand filtration) and chlorination, fluoridation and corrosion control equipment; completion of a two year college degree or higher in water treatment technology, biology, microbiology, bacteriology, chemistry, or hydraulics; or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the following knowledge, skills, and abilities:

Considerable knowledge of State of Oregon Drinking Water regulations (OAR Chapter 333), watershed management and protection practices.

Considerable knowledge of the materials methods, equipment, and practices used in the purification and distribution of water.

Considerable knowledge of the safety precautions necessary in water purification and distribution, and in taking samples and performing laboratory analysis.

Knowledge of the City's water distribution system or the ability to acquire such knowledge within the probationary period.

Ability to work independently and with a minimum of supervision.

Ability to make mathematic computations using a calculator and ability to utilize other modern office equipment such as copiers and computers.

Ability to read meters and gauges accurately and record information.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to work long hours in the open, frequently under adverse climatic conditions.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees and with the public.

Possession of a valid Oregon Water Treatment Plant Operator II certificate at time of appointment. Possession of an Oregon Water Treatment Plant Operator III certificate within six months of appointment. Higher Water Treatment Plant certificates are desirable.

Possession of a valid Oregon Class C Driver's license with hazardous materials endorsement and the ability to meet City driving standards. Class A commercial driver's license is desirable.

Work is performed both in the outdoors and around industrial settings. Work hours require weekend and evening duties with some call back. Industrial settings require sufficient mobility and dexterity for working around chemicals, noise, in subterranean locations, close quarters, and heights with safety precautions in order to inspect equipment operation and check monitoring gauges. Sensory perceptions are necessary to identify unsafe conditions such as mechanical noises, chlorine smells, etc. Outdoor work includes moving efficiently over uneven terrain in a variety of weather conditions. Work routinely requires operation of motor vehicle equipment to check conditions and take samples at wells, reservoirs, and water sources each day.

Personnel Director