

CITY OF SALEM
WASTEWATER LABORATORY ASSISTANT

00545

NATURE OF WORK

This is limited laboratory testing work in a municipal environmental laboratory.

Work involves setting up and running standard and routine tests of water and wastewater under the general supervision of a Technician. Work may include collecting samples for analysis, washing and sterilizing glassware, storage, clean-up and custodial care of the laboratory. Work is performed with some independence after laboratory routines are learned. This is not a lead or full supervisory classification.

The work of this classification is distinguished from the Laboratory Technician I by the absence of more complex laboratory analysis services.

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 which are not listed.)

Tests water, wastewater and sludge samples including pH, biochemical and chemical oxygen demand and suspended solids. Performs microbiological testing of drinking water and wastewater. Collects samples for analysis.

Prepares dilutions for testing samples. Prepares solutions as directed. Removes samples from incubator at proper time, titrates or reads test results.

Marks samples for identification, records data, cleans equipment, glassware, cleans laboratory surfaces, stores materials and supplies.

Performs other duties as assigned.

WORK QUALIFICATIONS

Experience or training in wastewater or similar laboratory. High school graduation and college level courses in chemistry and bacteriology or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the following knowledges, skills, and abilities:

Knowledge of chemistry and bacteriology.

Knowledge of laboratory tests, methods and equipment.

Considerable mathematical skill.

Skill in performing accurate data entry into a computer.

Ability to run routine, standardized tests with direct supervision.

Ability to establish and maintain working relationships with wastewater treatment plant personnel.

Ability to tabulate results, maintain records and write legibly.

Some positions may require possession of a valid Oregon Driver's License or Class C License and the ability to meet the City's driving standards.

Work is performed in a laboratory setting, and work schedule may involve weekends, holidays or evenings. Work requires manual dexterity and visual acuity to safely manipulate delicate glassware and equipment, see calibrations and measurements, distinguish colors and odors and transport sample jugs containing water weighing up to 40 pounds.

Personnel Director