

Reports to: Water Quality Supervisor
Pay Grade: 26

Class Code: 3732
Bargaining Unit: AFSCME

WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN

NATURE OF WORK

This position serves the public with technical work in performing standardized tests and analysis of water samples in a laboratory and in the field.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS *(These essential duties are only illustrative.)*

Collects ground water samples from customers' and City of Rockford well sites and conducts prescribed tests and analysis for numerous parameters as defined by regulating agencies and codes

Review lab results from both internal analysis and analysis from outside sources to identify potential and ongoing issues that may result in poor water quality or an IEPA reportable violation

Assists with the mandated Cross Connection Program, following all defined agency protocols and prescriptions, providing required data for system risk analysis

Prepares chemical solutions; maintains and calibrates laboratory equipment; maintains laboratory hygiene to the standards necessary for certification

Operates a computer; enters testing results and analyses into a computer database; prepares a variety of technical reports; files reports with regulatory agencies.

Assists in the coordination of the fire hydrant flushing program

Investigates and resolves water quality complaints and problems.

Monitors new water quality regulations; plans and recommends upgrades to water quality program to comply with new regulations; plans and coordinates annual water quality emergency planning process required by regulatory agencies.

Maintains reasonable and predictable attendance

SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Work is performed under general supervision of the Water Quality Supervisor who defines appropriate protocol and procedure in making decisions and carrying out essential tasks and assignments to completion. Experienced incumbents are expected to work with some level of independence. Work is reviewed for adherence to state, federal and local agency policies and procedures, for timely accomplishments of tasks, for overall results achieved, and the degree to which work meets established quality standards.

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SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Supervision is not a responsibility of this position class. Employee may exercise limited supervision over temporary summer workers or post-secondary interns.

WORKING CONDITIONS & PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Work is performed in a laboratory environment and outdoors at various water sampling sites, and exposes employee to potential hazards such as laboratory chemicals, chlorine gas, acids and weather extremes. Employee is required to wear protective equipment. Work involves sitting for long periods of time, standing, bending, squatting, lifting and carrying objects weighing up to 50 pounds, reaching in front of body and stretching overhead, using hands and fingers to operate a computer, laboratory instruments and equipment, and to drive a vehicle.

SUCCESS FACTORS (KSAs)

Considerable knowledge of the basic methods and techniques involved in water sampling, testing and analysis

Must have knowledge of water and laboratory mathematical principles which include the ability to calculate dilutions, percentages, volumes, ratios, flow rates, decimal and fractions.

Knowledge of the laws and regulations relating to water quality and testing

Knowledge of public water treatment processes and systems

Skill in collecting water samples and performing basic water tests and analyses

Skill in entering test and analysis results into a computer data base and in preparing computer generated reports.

Ability to obtain standard water samples and perform basic analytical work

Ability to prepare chemical solutions, and to operate laboratory instruments and equipment

Ability to utilize and maintain a wide range of information and data

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with superiors, other City employees, representatives of regulatory agencies, health department employees, and the general public

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EDUCATION, TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Graduation from high school or possession of a GED Certificate, supplemented by courses or training in Environmental Studies, Chemical Engineering or Chemistry. Two years of experience as a technician in a water or wastewater laboratory, or related experience which provides the knowledge, abilities and skills required by the position; or any satisfactory equivalent combination of experience and training which ensures the ability to perform the work may be substituted for the required experience.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Illinois Public Water Supply Operator Certification, Class C within 18 months of hire.

Must have the ability to obtain Class C license.

This position is required to participate in a rotating on-call schedule which may require working week-end or holidays.

Possession of a valid Illinois Driver's License.

Residency requirement: Classified employees hired after January 1, 1984 may live anywhere in Winnebago County or anywhere within an area fifteen (15) miles from the Public Safety Building within six (6) months of their date of completion of probation. Employees hired prior to January 1, 1984 shall be subject to their conditions of employment in effect at that time.