

**JOB TITLE:** **PLANT OPERATOR I**  
**(Utility Department)**

**PREPARATION DATE:** March 15, 1995

**REVISION DATE:**

**DEFINITION:**

Employees in this class are under supervision of Plant Superintendent. Work performed in operating and maintaining a water/wastewater plant and performing related work as required.

**EQUIPMENT/JOB LOCATION:**

Employee will operate a computer.

Employee will be required to use various types of laboratory equipment used in analyzing water quality.

At certain times, will operate lawn equipment, volt and amp meter, gas analysis equipment, hydraulic lift equipment, computerized flow monitoring equipment and other small wheel equipment.

Typically works indoors in an office environment, however, sometimes work is performed outdoors, regardless of weather conditions.

Work may expose employee to high places, dangerous machinery and its moving parts, sharp tools, fumes, chemicals and/or toxic substances.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE JOB:**

Performs a variety of tasks in the operation of a water/wastewater treatment plant.

Checks free chlorine residual in finished water and adjusts chlorinator for proper chlorine level.

Adjusts coagulant feeders to proper dosages.

Checks chlorinator connections for leaks.

Conducts physical, chemical, and bacteriological analysis, such as tests for turbidity, carbon dioxide, alkalinity, PH, hardness, on both raw and finished water.

Checks and services mechanical equipment.

Employee may be required to lift more than 25 pounds.

Operates PH meter, aspirator, microscope, comparator, incubators, analytical scales, burets, stills, sterilizer, and other equipment used in the laboratory.

Keeps records and makes reports.

May be required to use mowers and be exposed to dust, fumes and chemicals.

Performs other work as assigned.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:**

Knowledge of the principles of water/wastewater treatment.

Knowledge of State standards for water/wastewater treatment.

Knowledge of chemical analysis and laboratory equipment used in the performance of chemical analysis.

Ability to conduct chemical, physical, and bacteriological analysis, such as tests for turbidity, carbon dioxide, alkalinity, PH, hardness, BOD, suspended solids and settleable solids.

Ability to operate PH meter, aspirator, microscope, comparator, incubators, analytical scales, burets, sterilizer and other laboratory equipment as required in laboratory analysis.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to establish and maintain an effective working relationship with other employees.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Any combination of training and experience equivalent to:

Graduation from a standard High School.

Must be able to obtain a Tennessee Water/Wastewater Plant Operators Certificate, Grade III, equal to or higher than that of the facility classification within two (2) years of employment.

Must possess a valid Tennessee Operator's License.