

ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN III

Work in this class involves the inspection of public water supply systems, performing technical work in support of professional biologists, or reviewing plans and specifications for moderately complex environmental facilities.

Employees involved in the inspection of public water supplies schedule inspections; inspect systems for adherence to construction, maintenance and operational standards; site violators; and provide technical assistance in the correction of violations. Facilities inspected are generally the smaller non-governmental systems. Work includes inspecting systems in violation of maximum contaminant levels to determine the cause and make recommendations to bring the system into compliance, and the investigation and resolution of complaints filed by system users. Employees functioning in plans review are responsible for the review of complete plans for less complex facilities and segments of plans for the more complex facilities. Employees involved in assisting biologists are responsible for independently conducting less complex study steps and preparing study reports documenting findings. Work is performed under the general supervision of an environmental regional engineer, environmental supervisor or environmental engineering supervisor and may include other duties as assigned.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity - Employees perform a variety of tasks in one functional area: plans review, permitting or biological research. Although tasks are all related, each is accompanied by a different set of variables and facts. Some analysis is required in developing several alternative solutions, evaluating them and selecting the best solution.

Guidelines - Guidelines in each program are specific to the work performed and can usually be applied to most situations. In each program guidelines change periodically requiring employees to adjust their work methods accordingly.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Accountability - Employees involved in inspecting water supplies make decisions on issuing or denying permits and citing violations of standards and provide consultative services. Employees involved in plans review recommend approval or refection of plans. Employees involved in biological research are responsible for segments of studies which may be used to develop standards, regulations or environmental management strategies.

Consequence of Action - Decisions rendered by employees could result in localized degradation of the environment or endangering members of the general public using permitted or inspected water supplies.

Review - Employees plan and conduct day-to-day assignments independently. Work is technically reviewed only upon completion. In most cases, work is reviewed through determining the reasonableness of the results and the appropriateness of the methods used. The more complex, critical or controversial tasks receive a more thorough technical review.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Subject Matter - Employees in plans review or permitting/inspectional work explain violations or exceptions to standards to the owners and/or operators of environmental control or water supply systems. Both provide technical assistance on meeting standards. Employees in biological research explain work performed to members of the general public.

Purpose - Employees explain violations or exceptions to standards, negotiate compliance schedules, explain work operations or provide consultative services.

IV. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Nature of Working Conditions - Employees involved in field work are exposed to inclement weather, odors, sewage, irritating chemicals and fumes.

Nature and Potential of Personal Hazards - Employees are exposed to accident risks while driving automobiles. While inspecting facilities, employees are exposed to moving machinery. In responding to emergency situations such as spills, employees are exposed to potentially toxic or flammable chemicals.

V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities - Working knowledge of the principles and practices of the environmental field to which assigned. Working knowledge of the state and/or federal rules and regulations pertaining to the environmental area to which assigned. Working knowledge of the tools, equipment, procedures and methods necessary to carry out assigned functions in the assigned area. Ability to prepare technical reports. Ability to communicate effectively in both written and oral form. Ability to handle with tact, consistency and good judgement the diversity of public contacts demanded in consultative services and regulatory work.

Minimum Education and Experience - Graduation from a two-year technical college with an Associate Degree in chemical technology, civil engineering technology, environmental engineering technology, one of the natural or environmental sciences or a closely related curriculum and two years of experience in environmental work; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Minimum Education and Experience for Trainee Appointment - Graduation from a two-year technical college with an Associate Degree in chemical technology, civil engineering technology, environmental engineering technology, one of the natural or environmental sciences or a closely related curriculum; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Note - This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions in this class, but may not be applicable to all positions.

All degrees must be from an accredited university