

# WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR I 1008

**Grade: 16**

**Reports to (Primary):** Wastewater Treatment Plant Chief Operator

**Classification:** Non Exempt  
Essential Employee

**Division:** Wastewater Treatment Plant

**Date:** 6-1-08

**Approved:** 10-21-08

**Revision Date:** 6-1-10

**Revision Approved:** 6-1-10

## Job Summary:

Performs responsible skilled work in the operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment plant and related equipment. Work is performed under regular supervision. Limited supervision may be exercised over Plant Operator Trainee's.

## Essential Job Functions

1. Makes regular tours of plant and equipment such as pumps, aerators, clarifiers, hypochlorite systems, filters, aerobic digesters, etc.
2. Monitors gauges, meters, control panels, etc.; controls tank levels and flow rates.
3. Records readings from meters and instruments.
4. Checks functioning of equipment.
5. Operates computer SCADA system to control and monitor plant flow and machinery.
6. Regulates and adjusts motors, pumps, blowers, valves, and other apparatus to meet changing operating conditions.
7. Troubleshoots process problems.
8. Changes chlorine cylinders or monitors sodium hypochlorite tank levels.
9. Performs routine housekeeping duties at the plant.
10. Adds chemicals and rotates equipment.

## Additional Job Functions

Collects wastewater samples and performs routine lab work.

Skims grease from settling tanks.

Pumps sludge, drains tanks, and rotates equipment.

Cleans weirs and services pumps, motors, and other equipment.

Monitors chlorine residuals; makes chlorine feed rate adjustments.

Operates dewatering systems.

Monitors telemetry system; calls out field crews for alarm situations.

Investigates field calls from customers regarding backups, odors, etc.

Dispatches response crews.

Makes emergency repairs; performs preventive maintenance on plant equipment.

Records readings from meters and instruments; maintains records on plant operations.

Performs laboratory tests; makes necessary adjustments to meet changing conditions.

Helps train new employees.  
Troubleshoots process problems.  
Performs other tasks as assigned by the supervisor.

## Qualifications

Requires a high school diploma or GED equivalent. Possession of a valid State of Florida Driver's license. Must have possession of Florida D.E.P. Class C wastewater certificate prior to appointment. Thorough knowledge of the operating characteristics and maintenance requirements of the wastewater treatment equipment in the plant. Knowledge of hydraulic, chemical and mechanical principles pertinent to wastewater treatment plant operations. Knowledge of the occupational hazards of the work and of necessary safety precautions. Ability to detect flaws in the operation of mechanical equipment and to determine proper remedial measures. Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions. Ability to read meters and charts accurately and to maintain records of shift operations. Skilled in the use and care of laboratory testing and analysis equipment and instruments.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS OR STANDARDS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS**

**Physical Requirements:** Must be able to lift, carry and push articles weighing up to 50 lbs. Must wear personal protection equipment where required by the manufacturer of the equipment used such as hard hat/helmet, safety glasses, goggles, safety belt, safety shoes/boots, hearing protectors, safety harness, and gloves. Able to withstand and manage exposure to extreme temperatures, animals/insects, electrical hazards, confined spaces, heights, noise, vibration, dust, vapors, fumes, mist, smoke, toxic metals, sensitizers, poisons, gases, irritants, asphyxiates, moving mechanical parts, and pathogens.

**Manual Dexterity:** Requires the ability to handle a variety of items, office equipment, control knobs, switches, etc. Must have eye, hand, and foot coordination.

**Motor Coordination:** Requires the ability to coordinate hands and eyes in using automated office equipment; requires ambulatory coordination for field visits.

**Form/Spatial Aptitude:** Requires the ability to inspect items for proper length, width and shape.

**Color Discrimination and Visual Acuity:** Requires the ability to differentiate colors and shades of color; requires the visual acuity to determine depth perception, peripheral vision.

**Data Analysis/Use:** Requires the ability to compare and/or judge the readily observable functional, structural, or compositional characteristics (whether similar to or divergent from obvious standards) of data, people, or things. Prepare and analyze written or computer data, etc.

**Interpersonal Communications:** Requires the ability of speaking and/or signaling people to convey or exchange information. Includes receiving assignments and/or directions from superiors.

**Language Ability:** Requires the ability to read a variety of reports, records, forms, etc. Requires the ability to prepare reports and other related forms using prescribed formats. Requires the ability to speak to people with poise, voice control and confidence.

**Physical Communication:** Requires the ability to talk and/or hear (talking - expressing or exchanging ideas by means of spoken words; hearing - perceiving nature of sounds by ear.)

**Intelligence:** Requires the ability to learn and understand relatively complex principles and techniques; to make independent judgments in absence of supervision. To acquire knowledge of topics related to primary occupation.

**Verbal Aptitude:** Requires the ability to record and deliver information, to explain procedures. To follow oral and written instructions. Must be able to communicate effectively and efficiently in standard English.

**Numerical Aptitude:** Requires the ability to utilize mathematical formulas; add and subtract totals, multiply and divide, determine percentages, decimals, and statistical analyses, etc.

**Interpersonal Temperament:** Requires the ability to deal with people beyond giving and receiving instructions. Must be adaptable to performing under stress when confronted with persons acting under stress.

### **PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**Knowledge of Job:** Demonstrated knowledge of the principles, practices, machines, equipment, materials and operating and maintenance procedures for a wastewater treatment plant. Knowledge of federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, statutes, regulations, rules, policies and procedures related to public wastewater treatment plant operations and maintenance. Demonstrated skills and techniques related to the operation of a wastewater treatment plant. Demonstrate knowledge of the methods, policies, and procedures of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Division as they pertain to the performance of duties of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I. Has knowledge of the principles, practices, goals, and programs of the department. Is able to organize and present information clearly and concisely to various groups and individuals, to make sound, educated and independent decisions. Is able to effectively communicate with various types of groups and individuals such as board members, department employees, co-workers, trainees, sales representatives, civic and governmental leaders, computer consultants, and the general public. Is able to use judgment and discretion in carrying out duties and responsibilities. Has the verbal ability to make effective presentations and prepare effective reports, and the mathematical ability to carry out needed calculations accurately and quickly. Has good human relations and technical skills.

**Quality of Work:** Maintains high standards of accuracy in exercising duties and responsibilities. Exercises immediate remedial action to correct any deficiencies that occur in areas of responsibility. Maintains high quality communication and interface with all departments and divisions, co-workers and the general public.

**Quantity of Work:** Maintains effective and efficient output of all duties and responsibilities as described under "Essential Job Functions."

**Dependability:** Assumes responsibility for doing assigned work and for meeting deadlines. Completes assigned work on or before deadlines in accordance with directives, policy, standards, and prescribed procedures. Accepts accountability for meeting assigned responsibilities in the technical, human, and conceptual areas.

**Attendance:** Attends work regularly and on time. Adheres to policies and procedures regarding absences and tardiness. Provides adequate notice to higher management with respect to vacation time and time-off requests.

**Initiative and Enthusiasm:** Maintains an enthusiastic, self-reliant and self-starting approach to meet job responsibilities and accountabilities. Strives to anticipate work to be done and initiates proper and acceptable direction for the completion of work with minimum supervision and instruction. Conveys initiative and enthusiasm to others. Anticipates potential problems and needs and recommends or initiates appropriate preventive or corrective action.

**Judgment:** Exercises analytical judgments in areas of responsibility. Identifies problems or situations as they occur and specifies decision objectives. Identifies or assists in identifying alternative solutions to problems or situations. Implements decisions in accordance with prescribed and effective policies and procedures. Seeks expert or experienced advice; researches problems, situations, and alternatives before exercising judgment.

**Cooperation:** Accepts supervisory instruction, direction, and feedback; strives to meet the goals and objectives of the same. Questions such instruction and direction when clarification of results or consequences are justified, i.e., poor communications, variance with policy or procedures, etc. Offers suggestions and recommendations to encourage and improve cooperation between all staff persons and departments within the St. Lucie West Services District organization and personally demonstrates a cooperative and collegial attitude.

**Relationships with Others:** Shares knowledge with supervisors and staff for mutual benefit. Contributes to maintaining high morale among employees. Develops and maintains cooperative and courteous relationships inter- and intra-departmentally, and with external entities with whom the position interacts. Tactfully and effectively handles requests, suggestions and complaints in order to establish and maintain good will. Emphasizes the importance of maintaining a positive image.

**Coordination of Work:** Plans and organizes daily work routine. Establishes priorities for the completion of work in accordance with sound time-management methodology; avoids duplication of effort. Estimates expected time and cost of completion of elements of work and establishes a personal schedule accordingly. Attends meetings, planning sessions and discussions on time. Implements work activity in accordance with priorities and estimated schedules. Maintains a calendar for meetings, deadlines, and events. Is sensitive to work schedules of others.

**Safety and Housekeeping:** Adheres to all safety and housekeeping standards established by the organization and various regulatory agencies. Sees that the standards are not violated. Maintains a clean and orderly workplace.

**District Policy and Procedures:** Adheres to all rules and regulation pertaining to the District policy manual. Also responsible for knowledge of any update to the District policy manual.

**DISCLAIMER: This job description is not an employment agreement or contract. The Board of Supervisors reserves the exclusive right to alter the job description at any time without notice except as may be required for Board approval of a policy revision.**