

WATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR TRAINEE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

This is a trainee position in the competitive class for which candidates are selected on the basis of general intelligence, basic knowledge of elementary chemistry and general science and mechanical aptitude. The incumbent undergoes on-the-job training to become qualified as an operator of a water treatment plant. The position involves responsibility for learning the duties and assisting in the actual operation and maintenance of a water treatment plant. Term of appointment is limited to one year, during which time employees should be required to satisfactorily complete the training and experience requirements of the New York State Department of Health regulations for an operator's certificate appropriate to the plant. The work is performed under the immediate supervision of a qualified operator. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Performs study and reading assignments, observes demonstrations and otherwise

learns the techniques of operation and maintenance of a water treatment and distribution plant;

Learns and assists in the starting and operation, and adjustment of pumps, valves, and related mechanical equipment to maintain water pressures in the distribution system;

Learns and assists in the inspection, maintenance and repair of pumps, valves, and related mechanical equipment;

Learns and assists in the making of physical tests of water for color, odor and taste;

Learns and assists in the making of chemical tests of water for alkalinity and residual chlorine;

Learns and assists in regulating and adjusting chlorinators and other chemical feeders, washing filters and settling basins;

Learns and assists in the preparation and maintenance of activity records and reports;

Learns and assists in the performance of building maintenance and basic building repairs, including custodial duties;

May learn and assist in monitoring the City's hydroelectric plants and upper and lower pump stations to ensure proper functioning;

Reports orally and in writing to higher-level water treatment plant personnel;

Performs increasingly responsible duties as assigned in the operation and maintenance of a water treatment and distribution plant.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Familiarity with elementary principles of chemistry and general science;

Good general intelligence;

Ability to learn principles and procedures relating to operation and maintenance of a water treatment and distribution plant;

Ability to develop skill in the operation and maintenance of pumps, valves and related mechanical equipment;

Ability to accurately read scales and gauges;

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions;

Ability to work well with others;

Mechanical aptitude;

Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma.