

WATER/WASTEWATER FIELD TECHNICIAN

PURPOSE AND NATURE OF WORK

Positions in this class perform manual and skilled labor in the maintenance, repair, and construction of Lafayette Utilities System's Water Distribution or Wastewater Collection system and related installations. Operates various hand tools, machinery, power tools, and heavy equipment to accomplish assigned work projects; heavy equipment includes tandem-axle dump truck, backhoe/front loader, skid steer, excavator, vacuum truck, and flusher truck. Work assignments are received from a superior with work subject to periodic inspection while ongoing and upon completion.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK (Note: These examples are intended only to illustrate the various types of work performed by incumbents in this class. All of the duties performed by any one incumbent may not be listed, nor does any one incumbent necessarily perform all of these duties).

Drives department vehicles; lifts and/or moves and operates smoke blowers, fresh air blowers, compressors, tampers, electrical generators, concrete saws, jack hammers, tapping machines, and boring rigs. Assists employees that are operating equipment as needed. Climbs into excavations, applies shoring materials, and finishes excavation of pipe with shovels. Completes repair/maintenance work to water or wastewater piping, assets, and appurtenances. Operates pumps, high pressure flushers and related equipment. Makes repairs in accordance with all Departmental standards. Applies protective coatings. Tests repairs and ensures sanitation and safety of workers and customers in the presence of potentially toxic gases, substances, and microbes. Pours and finishes concrete driveways, streets, and sidewalks. Descends and works in trenches, manholes, lift stations, and other confined spaces. Uses computer to make notes on work orders during projects, to communicate through email, and to access GIS and other drawings of the relevant systems, depending on Division assignment.

Operates a medium or heavy-weight truck to transport materials and equipment to a job site and to haul debris, trash, dirt, or other materials. Performs skilled work in the operation of heavy equipment, including backhoe, vacuum basin cleaner with high pressure sewer cleaner, and/or hydraulic flusher. Employees may work along city streets or in hazardous situations which require the exercise of skill and care in handling the equipment. The operator may also supervise the members of a crew to ensure that work schedules are maintained. May also use remotely-operated camera for inspection of underground facilities. Checks assigned vehicle and/or machinery for any observable mechanical malfunctions and makes minor repairs or reports the condition to proper personnel. Checks air, gas, water, and oil, and sees that equipment is properly serviced. Cleans assigned equipment. Performs related work as required.

NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Knowledge of methods, materials, hand tools, and standards for maintenance and repair of water or wastewater pipelines and related installations.

Ability to perform heavy physical work and related laboring tasks.

Knowledge of sanitation, safety, and hazards of working in deep excavations, trenches, or confined spaces subject to gaseous contamination.

Computer skills to communicate via email and to input notes via work order and work service request software.

Ability to lift and manipulate heavy tools and equipment for extended periods, sometimes in confined spaces.

Ability to follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to read, write, and perform basic math as required by instructions, estimation of material quantities, and interpretation of maps and other graphic renditions of the relevant system.

Ability to obtain Class A CDL and knowledge and skill in the operation and maintenance of assigned equipment.

Knowledge of the traffic laws, ordinances, and regulations applying to the operation of assigned equipment.

Knowledge of the occupational hazards and safety precautions for the safe operation of assigned equipment.

Ability to supervise subordinates and maintain effective working relationships with other employees.

Ability to form effective working relationships with customers, employees, and others.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from high school or GED, work experience in water/wastewater utility maintenance, and the ability to operate power equipment and/or heavy equipment; or any equivalent combination of education and experience.

SPECIAL NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS

1. Possession of a valid Louisiana driver's license upon hire.
2. Must be capable of responding to the site within one hour of being notified.

APPRENTICESHIP

Positions in this class may be assigned to an apprenticeship as defined by Civil Service Rule IV, Section 6. This requires the employee to complete initial and ongoing training requirements established by Lafayette Utilities System within three (3) years for continued employment.