



Water Operator

Public Works - Water

PW-WAT/2

JOB SUMMARY

This position provides support for the operations, repair, and maintenance of the city's water utility system.

MAJOR DUTIES

- Inspects and maintains wells.
- Locates and repairs leaks.
- Responds to emergency situations, including after-hours calls.
- Collects water samples, performs compliance tests, and prepares samples for laboratory testing; regulates the addition of chemicals according to established policies and procedures and all local, state, and federal regulations in order to maintain compliance with established drinking water standards.
- Maintains careful, accurate, and timely records of all readings, tests, adjustments, and activity related to the handling of the city's drinking water; keeps operating logs current and submits operations reports to the Water Superintendent.
- Receives and responds to customer complaints and concerns; completes work orders and utility locates as required.
- Operates heavy equipment such as a backhoe, dump truck, bobcat, etc.
- Inspects and maintains the water distribution system; identifies repair and maintenance needs and informs supervisor.
- Collects and analyzes water samples to monitor chemical levels and to ensure compliance with regulations.
- Monitors troubleshoots, and adjusts various flows, pumps, meters, gauges, motor controls, system controls, SCADA equipment, and chemical equipment; ensures that operations comply with department standard operating procedures and with local, state, and federal regulations.
- Performs preventive maintenance and repairs on tools and equipment.
- Assists with snow removal operations and special events as needed.
- Performs related duties.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED BY THE POSITION

- Knowledge of city and department policies and procedures.
- Knowledge of work safety principles and practices.
- Knowledge of water distribution system maintenance principles.
- Skill in the operation and maintenance of job-related tools and equipment.
- Skill in the collection and analysis of water samples.
- Skill in the safe handling of chemicals.
- Skill in oral and written communication.

SUPERVISORY CONTROLS

The Water Superintendent assigns work in terms of general instructions. The supervisor spot-checks completed work for compliance with procedures, accuracy, and the nature and propriety of the final results.

GUIDELINES

Guidelines include EPA regulations, DANR regulations, AWWA standards, municipal codes and ordinances, and city and department policies and procedures. These guidelines require judgment, selection, and interpretation in application.

COMPLEXITY/SCOPE OF WORK

- The work consists of varied technical duties. Inclement weather and field conditions contribute to the complexity of the position.
- The purpose of this position is to participate in the maintenance of the city's water distribution system. Successful performance contributes to the efficiency and effectiveness of system operations.

CONTACTS

- Contacts are typically with coworkers, vendors, plumbers, contractors, representatives of government agencies, and the general public.
- Contacts are typically to give or exchange information, resolve problems, and provide services.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS/ WORK ENVIRONMENT

- The work is typically performed while intermittently sitting, standing, walking, bending, crouching or

stooping. The employee frequently lifts light and heavy objects, climbs ladders, uses tools or equipment requiring a high degree of dexterity, distinguishes between shades of color, and utilizes the sense of smell.

- The work is typically performed outdoors, occasionally in cold or inclement weather. The employee is exposed to noise, dust, dirt, grease, machinery with moving parts, and irritating chemicals. Work requires the use of protective devices such as masks, goggles, gloves, etc.

SUPERVISORY AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

None.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge and level of competency commonly associated with completion of specialized training in the field of work, in addition to basic skills typically associated with a high school education.
- Sufficient experience to understand the basic principles relevant to the major duties of the position, usually associated with the completion of an apprenticeship/internship or having had a similar position for one to two years.
- Possession of or ability to readily obtain a valid commercial driver's license issued by the State of South Dakota for the type of vehicle or equipment operated.
- Possession of or ability to readily obtain Class I Water Distribution license.