

**Worcester County
Job Opportunities**

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – WATER & WASTE WATER
JOB TITLE: PLANT OPERATOR
COMPENSATION: PLANT OPERATOR TRAINEE - GRADE 10/STEP 1 \$28,434 ANNUALLY/\$13.67 HOURLY
PLANT OPERATOR I – GRADE 11/STEP 1 \$29,827 ANNUALLY/\$14.34 HOURLY
APPLICATION PERIOD: UNTIL FILLED

JOB SUMMARY: Under supervision, performs or assists in the mechanical maintenance, operation, and inspection of one or more of the County's water treatment works, wastewater treatment plants, and/or wastewater collection and pumping systems, and performs related duties as assigned.

General Requirements:

- Drug and Alcohol Testing
- Subject to emergency call-back with little or no notice
- Pre-employment background check and motor vehicle history
- High School Diploma or GED

Essential Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Operates and assists in the operation, inspection, maintenance and makes minor repairs to water and wastewater treatment plants, water collection and pumping systems, and associated pipelines and equipment; completes reports and prepares work orders for required maintenance;
- Makes regular and periodic inspections of pumping stations and treatment plants;
- Changes, checks recording charts and monitors the telemetry alarm system to ensure that equipment is operating properly;
- Cleans, services, lubricates, and repairs pumps, motors, valves, and other mechanical equipment;
- Collects water and wastewater samples, performs standard tests with samples such as pH, chlorine residual, dissolved oxygen, iron concentrations, manganese concentrations, jar tests and/or sedabilities;
- Monitors and makes adjustments to chemical feed equipment;
- Inspects wells, tanks, pumps, and other related equipment;
- Monitors metering devices, changes recording charts, and keeps detailed records of water consumption, pumpage, and/or chemical usage;
- Maintains the physical plant and grounds surrounding pumping/treatment facilities;
- Clears blockages in sewer laterals and maintains air vacuum valves;
- Leads and instructs subordinates in duties related to plant operation;
- Drives automobile, truck, or other non-commercial weight (under 26,000 pounds) vehicle as required to perform assigned tasks;
- Participates in on-the-job and safety related training.
- Knowledge of proper safety procedures and PPE utilization at all times to perform job related duties.
- Adheres to the Worcester County Government Personnel Rules & Regulations;
- Other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Qualifications and Skills:

- Plant Operator Trainee – Three (3) years of experience in the repair/maintenance of a water or sewer system, buildings, machinery, equipment, vehicles, plumbing, or utility construction. Temporary state certification as a Waterworks, Wastewater Works, and/or Wastewater Collection System Operator is required within ninety (90) days of appointment.
- Plant Operator I - One (1) year of experience and working knowledge of water and/or wastewater treatment processes in the same type of facility to be operated; and one of the Maryland State certification as a Waterworks, Wastewater Works, and/or Wastewater Collection System Operator is required at time of appointment for the facility/facilities to be operated by this position;

For All Plant Operators:

- Knowledge of water and/or wastewater treatment processes for facilities to be operated and maintained by this position;
- Knowledge of mathematics with courses/training in basic science, chemistry, and/or biology;
- Experience in unskilled and semi-skilled labor tasks using hand and power tools to perform carpentry, painting, electric welding, metal cutting with acetylene torches, and/or the maintenance/repair of small equipment;
- Knowledge of safety procedures;
- Basic knowledge of water and/or wastewater treatment processes.
- Skill in the operation and minor, routine, repairs of hand and power tools, machines, equipment and vehicles;

- Ability to follow verbal and written instructions, read street signs, keep records and logs, complete written forms, and to communicate effectively with the public.
- Ability to apply acquired knowledge to increasing varied and complex tasks, perform duties independently and as part of a team, train on equipment and machinery of higher complexity and complete assigned tasks by established deadlines.
- Ability to perform heavy physical labor including bending, stooping, lifting and carrying heavy objects up to 50 lbs., and the operation of vehicles, tools, and equipment to accomplish assigned tasks.
- Valid driver's license and driving record of less than 4 points (MD).

Known Hazards:

Some work requires exposure to potentially hazardous conditions, such as working in traffic along roadways, working in trenches, handling chemicals, and adverse weather.