

## **WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR TRAINEE**

**DEPARTMENT:** Tioga County Municipalities  
**CLASSIFICATION:** Competitive  
**SALARY GRADE:** Varies by location  
**ADOPTED:** 11/13/73; Revised 5/97, 02/18 Tioga Co. Personnel & Civil Service

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The incumbent learns the duties and routines of the operation and maintenance of a waste water treatment plant. The term of appointment is dependent upon the complexity of the treatment plant operations as regulated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in Part 650 of the New York Code of Rule and Regulations. Upon satisfactory completion of the training and experience requirements as defined by the DEC, and receipt of the appropriate Operator Certification, the trainee receives permanent appointment as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator without additional examination. Work is performed under the immediate supervision of an appropriately certified operator. May exercise supervision over motor equipment operators or other subordinate employees. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative only)

- Performs study and reading assignments, observes demonstrations and otherwise learns the techniques of operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment plant;
- Learns and assists in the operation, maintenance and repair of pumps, valves, screens and related mechanical equipment;
- Learns and assists in performing laboratory test used to determine treatment plant efficiencies;
- Cleans channels, screens, tanks and other treatment plant equipment;
- Learns and assists in the preparation and maintenance of activity records and reports;
- Performs increasingly responsible duties as assigned in the operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment plant.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:** Familiarity with elementary principles of chemistry and general science; good general intelligence; good observation; mechanical aptitude; ability to learn principles and procedures relating to the operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment plant; ability to develop skill in the operation and maintenance of pumps, valve, and related mechanical equipment; ability to get along well with others; ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions; industry and dependability; tact and courtesy; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma. Positions evolving above a Grade 2 or 2A Operator are subject to the Department of Environmental Conservation grading qualifications under Section 650 of the New York Code of Rules and Regulations.

**\*SPECIAL NOTE:** Operator traineeships are limited to one year except for positions evolving into Grade 3, 3A, 4 or 4A Operators, where the experience requirement is eighteen (18) months and twenty-four (24) months respectively.

### **Local Wastewater Treatment Plant Grading**

Town of Owego - 3A  
Village of Owego - 2A (extended aeration)  
Village of Waverly - 3A