WATERWORKS OPERATOR

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

GENERAL DEFINITION AND CONDITIONS OF WORK:
This is a specialized technical position performing operations, maintenance and repairs on water production facilities, equipment and related appurtenances. This position reports to the Utility Operations Manager.

This is moderate manual work requiring intermittent lifting of objects weighing at least 30 pounds or more. Work requires climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, standing, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, fingering, grasping, and repetitive motions; vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word; hearing is required to perceive information at normal spoken word levels; visual acuity is required for color perception, visual inspection involving small defects and/or small parts, use of measuring devices, assembly or fabrication of parts at or within arm’s length, operation of machines, operation of motor vehicles or equipment, determining the accuracy and thoroughness of work, and observing general surroundings and activities; the worker is subject to inside and outside environmental conditions, extreme cold, extreme heat, noise, vibration, hazards, atmospheric conditions, and oils. The worker may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens and may be required to wear specialized personal protective equipment. This position may involve call-out for afterhours work activities.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS/TYPICAL TASKS:
(The following tasks are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.)

Operates, maintains, and repairs mechanical and electrical systems at water production facilities, equipment and appurtenances including maintenance, diagnosing issues, operating, adjusting, and mechanical problems and repairs;
Operates, monitors and records data in the operation of the distribution system including pressures, tanks levels, flow rates and water quality through on site checks and through a computer-based system and makes necessary adjustments at facilities to meet water supply, quality and quantity requirements;
Monitors, operates and tests facility operation including recording flows, pressures, levels, run times, calculates production quantities, records water quality parameters and assess process performance;
Operates and maintains chemical feed systems and performs analytical tests and calculations to determine appropriate treatment and feed rates;
Records and maintains operational and laboratory data including the performance of a variety of chemical testing including but not limited to pH, chlorine residual, alkalinity, and orthophosphate, and determines needed adjustments based on results; collects water samples as required by regulatory agencies including assorted chlorine residual, chemical and bacteriological samples as needed; follows up and coordinates with lab on test results;
Calibrates water analytical instruments through the use of known standards; calculates disinfection doses for water system, and tanks; operates and maintains disinfection equipment; serves as competent person directing maintenance operations during confined space entry activities as the entry supervisor; oversees employees associated Lockout/Tag out Procedures; ensures efficient operation of the water production facilities; maintains established water quality standards by monitoring well operations; collecting water samples; performing tests for conditions such as turbidity, conductivity, chlorine and pH; performing administrative work maintaining facility or vehicle specific inventory; ordering items as necessary; initiating work orders, etc.; responds to citizen’s questions and concerns relating to water quality; investigates complaints of water quality or water leaks as requested; assists Utility Supervisor and Operations Manager with ongoing training of Utility Workers; participates in emergency response operations as required in a declared emergency by County officials; completes required NIMS training as a condition of employment; performs related work as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:
Thorough knowledge of water chemistry, sampling, and chemical and biological analytical methods in determining water quality and treatment requirements; skilled in mechanical maintenance, plumbing and basic electrical work related to pumps, instrumentation, valves, piping, meters and other water related equipment and processes; thorough knowledge of Federal and State laws and regulations that apply to the operation of a Waterworks; analytical techniques and methods including water treatment and processes. Thorough knowledge of the tools, materials and equipment used in the operations of a waterworks and the ability to operate waterworks equipment; ability to perform manual and semiskilled labor for extended periods, often under unfavorable conditions; ability to establish and maintain positive working relationships with customers, supervisor and coworkers. Ability to perform mathematical calculations to calculate chemical dosages, convert units of weights and measures and perform laboratory tests, checking of meters, instrumentation and calibration of testing, and pumping equipment verifications. Skill in use of computer software, especially Microsoft Office Suite.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:
High school diploma or equivalent required with related water utility experience preferred. Preferred 3 to 5 years of experience in the inspection, maintenance and repair of water production facilities. Must possess, or be able to obtain within 6 months of hire, a class IV or greater waterworks operator license; and must maintain all required continuing education requirements to retain the class IV waterworks operator license.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:
Must have a valid Virginia Driver’s License; may work beyond normal scheduled hours; may be assigned routine scheduled coverage responsibilities under call-out policy; must wear uniform according to standards, including safety equipment.