

LEAD OPERATOR – COLLECTION SYSTEM

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To perform technical, skilled, and strenuous physical work in the maintenance, repair, and construction of sewers, lift stations and related equipment; to assist in the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant; and to perform related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Work is performed under the supervision of the Wastewater Superintendent or other designated official.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: May supervise other employees assigned to assist.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Study and learn the general layout and specific areas of concern of the Owosso sewer systems. Read and interpret sewer maps. Provide accurate field data for updating maps and records. Accurately locate and identify sewer lines for construction staking. Complete reports and maintain records of work performed.
- Perform routine and on demand sewer cleaning operations. Assist in the planning and scheduling of sewer system preventive maintenance operations.
- Perform routine inspections of lift stations. Report and explain deficiencies to the supervisor. Troubleshoot, maintain and assist in the repair of pumping equipment, valves, instrumentation and alarms.
- Perform or assist in sewer inspections including televised sewer inspections, dye testing, smoke testing, manhole inspections, and pipe installation inspection. Record and evaluate findings and make recommendations for follow-up actions as appropriate.
- Operate a combination sewer jet and vacuum truck unit, and other sewer equipment including power rodder, bucket machine and TV system.
- Operate other heavy equipment and tools such as dump trucks, backhoe, front end loader, air compressor, pumps and air hammer.
- Routinely clean and perform scheduled preventive maintenance on assigned equipment and tools, inspect equipment and tools, reporting and following up on any defects or needed repairs.
- Enter and work in confined spaces in accordance with approved safety procedures. Operate and maintain gas detectors, ventilation equipment and safety equipment. Perform all duties in conformance with appropriate safety and security standards.
- Construct and repair sewers, manholes and catch basins.
- Respond to customer complaints, evaluate situations, report findings, and take appropriate follow-up actions.
- The ability to complete paperwork, input and log data into the GIS system by using a city-provided phone and/or tablet to complete logs and work orders.

OTHER FUNCTIONS:

- Train other employees assigned to assist or learn the above functions.

- Assist in the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant, performing such duties as required of a wastewater plant attendant/operator.
- Upon assignment, work in other public services crews on tasks as required including, but not limited to, construction of new sewers and water mains, snow removal operations, water main repairs and emergency operations.
- Undertake and complete continuing education training to improve job skills.

(Note: The functions listed above illustrate the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of a specific statement of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.)

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Graduation from high school, GED equivalent, or an equivalent combination of education and experience.
- A combination of knowledge, aptitude, experience and physical skills to competently undertake the above described job functions.
- Substantial knowledge of municipal sewer construction, maintenance requirements and methods, and hazards and safety procedures associated with the operation and maintenance of wastewater systems.
- A minimum of five (5) full years of experience in a responsible position in municipal sewer maintenance.
- Demonstrated ability to operate various types of heavy and power-driven equipment with direct experience with municipal sewer cleaning equipment.
- Ability to learn and perform the duties of a wastewater plant operator/attendant.
- Ability to perform heavy manual tasks for extended periods of time; ability to work safely; ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, other departments and the public; ability to understand and carry out written and oral instructions.
- Must possess a valid commercial driver's license, Class B with air brakes, manual transmission & N-Tank Vehicle endorsement.
- Any state certification(s) specific to the City's collection system users and requirements.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel, or operate objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee is occasionally required to walk, sit, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl. The employee must have the physical dexterity and strength to safely enter and exit manholes through standard openings with applicable safety equipment. The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 25 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds.

Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to focus. The ability to detect odorous gases is required.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in outside weather conditions as experienced year-round in Michigan including inclement weather. The employee frequently works near moving mechanical equipment and is frequently exposed to wet and/or humid conditions and vibration. The employee works near and may come into contact with municipal wastewater and may be exposed to fumes and gases encountered in a municipal wastewater system. The employee may occasionally enter into confined spaces with limited ventilation. The employee may occasionally work in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to fumes or airborne particles, toxic or hazardous chemicals, and risk of electrical shock. The noise level in the work environment is usually loud.

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