

CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS CODE: 5133

TITLE: SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

GRADE: S-27

DEFINITION:

Under direction, plans, coordinates and supervises a team of professionals and/or paraprofessionals and/or performs technically advanced specialized work in a particular environmental services area such as the Wastewater, Solid Waste and Stormwater Management programs; and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

This class supervises a team of professionals, paraprofessionals and technicians in a particular environmental services area, OR performs technically advanced specialized work in a particular environmental services area.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:

(The illustrative duties listed in this specification are representative of the class but are not an all inclusive list. A complete list of position duties and unique physical requirements can be found in the position description.)

- Oversees and/or conducts environmental monitoring tasks, using sophisticated equipment;
- Oversees code compliance program ensuring that activities comply with County and State codes;
- Oversees safety program for the agency, including occupational and environmental safety concerns;
- Oversees and/or conducts research into environmental issues, prepares technical analyses of results of study work and presents same to appropriate management as well as, when appropriate, the Board of Supervisors, other boards and commissions, etc.;
- Oversees the investigation of incidents which impact the environment e.g., spills or the release of noxious fumes, and responds to citizen complaints, ensuring appropriate abatement/remedial actions are taken;
- Oversees agency emergency response program;
- Ensures contractors are in place to act as necessary in emergency response;
- Analyzes the potential environmental impacts of proposed projects and makes recommendations on changes that are necessary to bring projects into compliance with environmental laws and regulations;
- Develops revisions to established processes and procedures to conform to changes in environmental laws and regulations;
- Sponsors/promotes environmental education and outreach programs, as well as programs designed to ensure the safety of staff exposed to environmental hazards.

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Page 2

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

(The knowledge, skills and abilities listed in this specification are representative of the class but are not an all inclusive list.)

Thorough knowledge of chemistry, biochemistry, environmental sciences, microbiology, waste management, sanitary engineering or other scientific or technical discipline pertinent to area of assignment;

Thorough knowledge of pertinent Federal, State and County laws, regulations, procedures, etc. and the ability to recognize changes required in internal process, procedures and processes when these laws or regulations change;

Knowledge of current industry trends, customs, and best practices pertinent to area of assignment, as well as the environmental science and areas of concern associated with assigned area;

Knowledge of environmental and industrial safety practices, procedures and the necessary training to maintain compliance;

Ability to conduct environmental testing/sampling using sophisticated measurement equipment in a field or laboratory setting;

Ability to communicate effectively, both in writing and verbally;

Ability to effectively interface with Federal and State regulators, as well as work collaboratively with other environmental professionals both within County government and outside;

Ability to provide high level technical guidance and counsel to agency and DPWES management, as well as the Board of Supervisors and other boards and commissions;

Ability to address public meetings and other forums on area of expertise;

Ability to supervise other professionals and paraprofessionals.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education, training and experience equivalent to:

Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelors degree in environmental science, environmental engineering or the natural sciences;

PLUS

Four years of experience in areas relevant to area of assignment.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license.

A valid Virginia Waste Management Facility Operator Class I and/or II or the ability to obtain same within one year may be required for certain positions as identified to the Department of Human Resources.

Possession of a valid Virginia Class I Wastewater Treatment Operator license or the ability to obtain same within one year may be required for certain positions as identified to the Department of Human Resources.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

None

ESTABLISHED: May 20, 2009