

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR-IN-TRAINING**Nature of Work**

Under direct supervision, works at a training level in the performance of technical and field inspection work in environmental protection programs. Determines compliance with applicable laws, regulations, permits, best management practices, and/or contracts within an assigned region of the state. Work involves intensive training programs. Work is characterized by initial performance of job duties accompanied by an inspector, technical staff, training officer, or specialist, or supervisor. With gradual assumption of more independence and authority, and as proficiency is demonstrated, supervision becomes less direct. As the employee progresses in the performance of assigned and statutory duties, conditional apprenticeship assignment may be made to a specific geographic area of the state, during which the employee exercises all authority and is assigned responsibility in accordance with the laws of West Virginia pertaining to the area of assignment. Work requires travel and outside work in varying weather conditions and over difficult terrain. Subject to emergency response, being on-call and temporary assignment to a different geographical area of the state, as necessitated by environmental conditions and agency needs. May be assigned to an area of specialization, as detailed above. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

This class is distinguished from the Inspector classification by its training nature. Although many of the examples of work in the Inspector-in-Training classification are similar to those in the Inspector class, it is understood that the duties at this level are initially performed under close supervision until sufficient proficiency is achieved.

Examples of Work

- Learns to perform assigned duties under the guidance of a trained inspector or supervisor.
- Collects samples from state waters, soil and discharges for field and laboratory analyses to determine environmental quality and compliance; documents findings.
- Makes regular inspections of sites to ascertain types of wastes produced, sources and volume of wastes, efficiency of treatment, disposal methods, compliance with laws, regulations, issued permit conditions, reclamation contracts, best management practices or to determine the condition of state waters, or to evaluate surface mining and reclamation practices.
- Discusses with public officials, private business representatives and the general public, their efforts to protect the environment and to outline pertinent statutory and regulatory obligations.

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR-IN-TRAINING (CONT'D)**Examples of Work (cont'd)**

- Investigates complaints pertaining to suspected environmental harm from point sources, nonpoint sources, or regulated facilities.
- Conducts field reviews of permit applications, contract proposals or sediment control plans.
- Determines the intervals and appropriate sites for sampling and records pertinent data concerning relevant factors.
- Inspects sites under construction and/or during operation for compliance with contracts, permits or best management practices.
- Responds, in accordance with approved emergency response procedures, to spills or releases of pollutants, some of which may be hazardous substances.
- Consults with supervisor on observations, variances cited in complying with regulations, and problems noted during inspections in order to determine courses of action which will accomplish the regulatory objectives.
- Initiates criminal, administrative or civil enforcement or prosecution actions against suspected violators of environmental protection laws; testifies in court or administrative proceedings as required.
- Orders immediate cessation of any operation or portion thereof when provided for by law where the public welfare or safety calls for such or when necessary due to noncompliance with law, regulations, permit conditions, and/or agency orders.
- Makes decisions on change orders on reclamation contracts, adequacy of construction materials and methods, and verifies appropriateness of payment requests.
- Writes technical and activity reports.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of the fundamental principles of the natural sciences and chemistry.
- Knowledge of current research and technical information pertinent to area of assignment.
- Knowledge of mathematics and algebra.
- Knowledge of scientific sampling methods and analytical procedures.
- Knowledge of basic first-aid procedures, safety regulations and precautionary measures.
- Ability to learn state and federal laws and regulations and agency policies and procedures related to environmental protection programs.
- Ability to learn to prepare warrants to submit to the court, which court jurisdiction to approach, and how to testify effectively before the court as a witness for the state.

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR-IN-TRAINING (CONT'D)**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (cont'd)**

- Ability to learn to apply acceptable methods, procedures, and approaches to making a complete and satisfactory investigation of suspected environmental harm by point sources and nonpoint sources.
- Ability to learn to use and properly maintain laboratory and field monitoring equipment, motorboats, mobile radio equipment, 4-wheel drive vehicles, and cameras.
- Ability to perform chemical field tests and interpret results.
- Ability to read and interpret technical reports, topographic maps, engineering plans, and construction specifications, and to enforce adherence thereto.
- Ability to keep accurate records, analyze, assemble and evaluate data and prepare technical reports in a clear and concise form, including recommendations for any warranted corrective actions.
- Ability to understand statutory and regulatory procedures and to explain these procedures clearly and concisely.
- Ability to walk long distances in adverse weather over rugged terrain and to lift and carry equipment for considerable distances.
- Ability to work in special apparel such as, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), respirator, and/or encapsulating suit.
- Ability to learn to swim.

Minimum Qualifications

- TRAINING Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in natural or applied science, engineering, or occupational safety and health.
- SUBSTITUTION Full-time or equivalent part-time paid inspection, technical, or professional employment in one of the areas of assignment may substitute for the required training on a year-to-year-basis.
- SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS Must be eligible for license to operate a motor vehicle in West Virginia. For work in the areas of hazardous waste management and solid waste management, must take and pass physical examination within the first six months of employment and submit to annual follow-up examinations. Failure to pass the initial examination will result in termination of employment. Failure to pass a subsequent examination may result in reassignment.
- NOTE Personnel engaged in activities associated with hazardous wastes risk exposure to situations or chemicals which may cause illness or injury if proper procedures are not followed.

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ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR-IN-TRAINING

AREA OF ASSIGNMENT

Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation

Environmental Compliance Monitoring

Hazardous Waste Management

Surface Mining Reclamation

Solid Waste Management

Water Pollution Control

Air Quality

Established: 9/16/93

Effective: 10/16/93