

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR SPECIALIST

Nature of Work: Under administrative direction, at the advanced level, serves as a lead worker or training officer and performs technical and field inspection work in environmental protection programs to determine compliance with applicable laws, regulations, permits, best management practices and/or contracts on a statewide basis. Has the authority to follow-up violations with initiation of criminal prosecution but is generally directing and assisting other less trained and experienced inspectors in appropriate enforcement procedures. Work requires travel and outside work in varying weather conditions and over difficult terrain. Subject to emergency response. May be assigned to an area of specialization as detailed above. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics: This classification is distinguished from the Inspector by the elements of training others and lead work; may serve as an area-specific specialist. It is further distinguished from the Inspector Supervisor in that this classification acts as liaison between the supervisor and field personnel. Typically, incumbents in this classification do not act as full-performance supervisors over other inspectors.

Examples of Work

- Trains inspectors-in-training and inspectors.
- Coordinates and monitors work of inspectors-in-training and inspectors engaged in complex technical or inspection duties.
- Follows-up and evaluates performance to determine need for additional or more intensive training.
- Interprets laws, rules, regulations, contracts, engineering drawings, plans and specifications and explains such to others, and enforces the provisions thereof.
- Conducts training seminars for inspectors and other technical and professional personnel.
- Completes reports on activities for review by supervisor; assists legal counsel in the preparation of materials for hearings in courts of law or administrative proceedings; testifies as necessary.
- Consults and advises supervisor concerning proposed or needed changes in policy and work procedures.
- Makes inspections at sites to verify the accuracy or completeness of inspection reports submitted by inspectors-in-training or inspectors.
- Responds in accord with approved emergency response procedures to spills or releases of pollutants, some of which may be hazardous substances.

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR SPECIALIST (CONT'D)**Examples of Work (cont'd)**

- 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.
- Investigates complaints pertaining to previously reported suspected environmental harm from point sources, nonpoint sources, or regulated facilities to determine if prior inspections were conducted and appropriate action taken.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Performs all duties of an inspector when required.
- Knowledge of state and federal laws and regulations, and agency policies and procedures related to environmental protection programs; specific experience-based knowledge in the area of assignment.
- Knowledge of the judicial system and statutory and regulatory procedures.
- Knowledge of the fundamental principles of the natural sciences and chemistry.
- Knowledge of mathematics and algebra.
- Knowledge of scientific sampling methods and analytical procedures.
- Knowledge of basic first-aid procedures, safety regulations and precautionary measures.
- Skill in use and maintenance of laboratory and field monitoring equipment, motorboats, mobile radio equipment, 4WD vehicles, and cameras.
- Skill in reading and interpreting topographic maps, engineering drawings, engineering plans and specifications, and in enforcing adherence thereto.
- Ability to learn principles and practices of personnel management and Division of Personnel requirements and procedures.
- Ability to train and coordinate the work of others.
- Ability to apply acceptable methods, procedures and approaches to making a complete and satisfactory investigation of suspected environmental harm.
- Ability to perform field chemical tests and interpret results.
- Ability to keep accurate records, assemble, analyze and evaluate data, prepare technical reports in a clear and concise form, and initiate warranted corrective actions.
- Ability to speak and lead discussions in seminars and training sessions.
- Ability to plan complex projects and steps for completion of complex assignments, and to guide other assigned staff in completion of such projects and assignments.

ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTOR SPECIALIST (CONT'D)**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (cont'd)**

- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, government officials, private business representatives and the general public, deal with controversial matters in a tactful manner, and to effectively represent the agency.
- Ability to walk long distances in adverse weather over rugged terrain and to lift and carry equipment for considerable distances.
- Ability to communicate for the purpose of obtaining, imparting, or exchanging information, clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
- Ability to carry-out instructions with minimal supervision and exercise good judgement in appraising situations and decision making.
- Ability to work in special apparel such as, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), respirator, and/or encapsulating suit.
- Ability 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-for-year basis.
- Experience:** Three years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid professional, supervisory, or administrative employment in the field of environmental inspection or environmental compliance in one of the areas of assignment.
- Substitution:** A Masters Degree in natural or applied science, engineering, or occupational safety and health, may substitute for one year of the experience.
- Special Requirements:** Must be eligible for license to operate a motor vehicle in West Virginia. For work in the area of hazardous waste management and solid waste management, must take and pass a physical examination during 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 SPECIALIST (CONT'D)

AREAS OF ASSIGNMENT

Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation

Environmental Compliance Monitoring

Explosives and Blasting

Hazardous Waste Management

Surface Mining Reclamation

Solid Waste Management

Water Pollution Control

Air Quality

Established: 9/16/93

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