



Metropolitan Council Plant Operator

SALARY	\$35.76 Hourly \$74,380.80 Annually	LOCATION	Metro Plant - 2400 Childs Rd. St. Paul MN 55106, MN
JOB TYPE	Full-Time	JOB NUMBER	2023-00295
DIVISION	Environmental Services	OPENING DATE	09/14/2023
CLOSING DATE	Continuous		

WHO WE ARE

We are the Metropolitan Council, the regional government for the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area. We plan 30 years ahead for the future of the metropolitan area and provide regional transportation, wastewater, and housing services. [More information about us on our website.](#)

Environmental Services is hiring ten (10) experienced Plant Operators. We are accepting applications until all positions are filled. ***The first review of applications will begin on October 5, 2023.***

We are committed to supporting a diverse workforce that reflects the communities we serve.

Environmental Services

VISION

Clean water for future generations

We partner, plan, and provide services to protect our region's water.

MISSION

VALUES respect, inclusiveness, integrity, commitment, excellence

Join an award-winning wastewater industry leader in protecting our environment! Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) operates and maintains the wastewater collection and treatment system in the Twin Cities metropolitan region. It also provides coordinated long-range water supply planning, air and water quality monitoring to meet future needs. MCES treatment plants consistently earn state and national awards for complete compliance with their environmental permits. MCES received a Governor's Award as a Great Place to Work.

To find out more about the Environmental Services division, please click on the link for more information: <https://metrocouncil.org/Wastewater-Water.aspx>.

How your work would contribute to our organization and the Twin Cities region:

The Plant Operator is an experienced position performing operations, monitoring and maintaining Environmental Services wastewater treatment plants in the seven-county metro area to ensure the highest quality water and air standards possible for the region.

Our nine wastewater treatment plants are located in: Cottage Grove, Eagan, Empire Township, Hastings, Rogers, Shakopee, St. Paul, Stillwater, and East Bethel. Operators could be assigned to any of the nine plants at hire and then bid for positions based on seniority.

Work Schedule for Plant Operators: Treatment plants operate 24/7 year-round. Plant operators work 8-hour, 10-hour, or 12-hour shifts. Plant location and work shift are determined through a job bid process. Most operators work a 12-hour shift (7 am to 7 pm -OR- 7 pm to 7 am) on one of the following schedules:

- First week: Friday - Sunday
Second week: Thursday - Sunday

The following link is a video overview of the history and operations of Environmental Services: [MCES Overview](#)

What you would do in this job

Operations and Equipment:

- Operate process control equipment (i.e., start/stop and control speed and flow rates on various types of pumps, compressors, generators, blowers, conveyor belts, incinerators, tanks, rotating equipment, instrumentation, land spreading and bio-solids) to ensure our compliance with permits requirements.
- Monitors and controls plant functions through computer information (i.e., SCADA), computers, automatic controllers, or manual controls to ensure proper process operations are maintained (i.e., feed rates, pressure, temperature, tank levels, sludge blanket levels, voltage, current and other various parameters).
- Operate, control and monitor treatment process equipment (preliminary, primary, secondary, disinfection, incineration, odor control, dewatering and solids handling processes).
- Monitor and control plant functions through computer information (i.e., SCADA), computers, automatic controllers, or manual controls to ensure proper process operations are maintained (i.e., feed rates, pressure, temperature, tank levels, sludge blanket levels, voltage, current and other various parameters).
- Monitor raw water, processes water conditions and adds and adjusts chemicals accordingly.
- Respond to spills, sewage stoppage, and cleanup of overflow by taking appropriate corrective action.

Maintenance:

- Perform preventative maintenance on equipment and instruments to ensure efficient operation and accurate instrument reading. Performs routine adjustments and minor repairs to motors, pumps, and valves. Cleans tanks, weirs, pumps and other process control equipment utilizing hand tools and power tools.
- Maintain tools, equipment and materials; inspects and monitors equipment. Troubleshoots operational and equipment problems.
- Maintain facility by cleaning, sweeping, and hosing down equipment, piping, and valves.

Safety:

- Perform maintenance checks and service on safety equipment and stations, including fire extinguishers, first aid equipment, smoke detectors, sprinkler systems, eye wash stations and respirator equipment.
- Use appropriate safety equipment (respirator equipment, oxygen, toxic/explosive monitoring equipment meters) necessary to complete work in hazardous atmospheres.
- Apply proper safety precautions, rules and regulations, and practices of a wastewater treatment plant. Must follow standard safety protocol and standards including the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and respirators as needed.
- Respond to emergency on-call situations.
- Identify safe work practices to properly use safety equipment.

Technical:

- Perform general maintenance and repair operations, with the use of tools, materials and equipment.
- Perform troubleshooting functions. Make routine adjustments to motors, pumps and other equipment.
- Use computers to track work orders, maintenance activities, tank readings, logbooks, and process summaries.

Communications and Customer Service:

- Communicate regularly with supervisor and others on work progress to coordinate operations and activities.
- Collaborate with others and work in teams.

Laboratory Testing and Records and Documentation:

- Conduct various process control tests (e.g., pH levels, temperature); collect and test wastewater sewage samples.
- Maintain records and documents on operations and equipment (e.g., hourly/daily readings, logbooks, process summaries, work orders, computer data entry).

Additional responsibilities of the position include but are not limited to:

- Attend meetings, workshops and training sessions; review documents and remain current on principles, practices and new developments in assigned work areas.
- Other duties assigned or apparent.

What education and experience are required for this job (minimum qualifications)

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age to be considered.

Education: High school diploma or equivalent.

Experience: Minimum of six (6) months of verifiable work experience in wastewater treatment plants, public utilities, wastewater collection systems or heavy industrial environment.

Experience Equivalency: Completion of the Wastewater Certification Program or a Water Environments Technology degree may take the place of 6 months of work experience.

License Requirements: Valid Driver's license with an acceptable driving record.

Language: Ability to read at a sufficient level to understand training manuals, safety regulations, federal and state regulations and other regulations. Ability to comprehend, understand and apply written and verbal direction and standard operating procedures. Ability to communicate effectively and accurately using Standard Written English (grammar, punctuation, spelling, word usage and sentence structure).

Math: Knowledge of basic mathematics; ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide using whole numbers, common fractions and decimals.

Technical: Must have computer skills to be able to use standard or customized software.

What additional skills and experience would be helpful in this job (desired qualifications):

- Preferred Certification: State of Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Class C or higher
- Experience working and collaborating in diverse, multicultural, and inclusive environments

What knowledge, skills and abilities you should have within the first six months on the job:

- Knowledge of tools, materials, and equipment used in general maintenance and repair operations and general construction operations.
- Knowledge of pump and valve components and operations.
- Ability to identify potential safety hazards.
- Ability to perform troubleshooting functions.
- Ability to make routing adjustments to motors, pumps, and other equipment.
- Knowledge of general municipal/industrial processes (e.g., power generation, water/wastewater, manufacturing).
- Knowledge of general industrial safe work practices, proper use of safety equipment and safety practices in with use of tools.
- Ability to operate an office computer and standard or customized software applications.
- Ability to read at a sufficient level to understand training manuals, safety regulations, federal and state regulations, and other regulations.
- Ability to comprehend, understand and apply basic and complex written, oral practices and techniques of wastewater treatment (water pumping, disinfections, storage, distribution, and wastewater collection activities, etc.).
- Ability to communicate effectively and accurately using Standard Written English (grammar, punctuation, spelling, word usage and sentence structure).
- Knowledge of basic mathematics; ability to add, subtract, multiply and divide using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals.
- Ability to compute flow rates, ratio and percent and to draw and interpret bar graphs.
- Requires the skill to provide basic client services to the public and other agencies within the organization. Requires tact, courtesy and cooperation in dealing with others where the primary purpose is the exchange of information.

What you can expect from us:

- We offer the opportunity to make a difference and positively influence the Twin Cities metropolitan area.
- We encourage our employees to develop their skills through on-site training and tuition reimbursement.
- We provide a competitive salary, excellent benefits and a good work/life balance.

[More about why you should join us!](#)

Additional information

Union: Operating Engineers, Local 49

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Safety Sensitive: Yes

What your work environment would be: Must be able to work under conditions such as confined spaces, loud work environment, heights, obnoxious smells, heat, cold, rain and potentially hazardous areas. Uses common hand and power tools to operate and maintain plant equipment.

Physical Requirements: Must be able to safely lift and carry portable pumps, hoses, and other equipment weighing up to 50 pounds for short distances. Ability to climb ladders, and descend/ascend stairs, grasp, bend, kneel, and reach. Ability to sit and stand for extended periods of times. Physically and medically able to be certified on donning respirator and safety equipment.

What steps the recruitment process involves:

1. We review your minimum qualifications.
2. We rate your education and experience.
3. We conduct a structured panel interview.
4. We conduct a selection interview.

Once you have successfully completed the steps above, then:

If you are new to the Metropolitan Council, you must pass a drug test (safety sensitive positions only), and a background check which verifies education, employment, and criminal history. A driving record check and/or physical may be

conducted if applicable to the job. If you have a criminal conviction, you do not automatically fail. The Metropolitan Council considers felony, gross misdemeanor and misdemeanor convictions on a case-by-case basis, based on whether they are related to the job and whether the candidate has demonstrated adequate rehabilitation.

If you are already an employee of the Metropolitan Council, you must pass a drug test (if moving from a non-safety sensitive position to a safety sensitive position) and criminal background check if the job you're applying for is safety sensitive, is a supervisory or management job, is in the Finance, Information Services, Audit, or Human Resources departments, or has access to financial records, files/databases, cash, vouchers or transit fare cards. A driving record check and/or physical may be conducted if applicable to the position.

IMPORTANT: If you make a false statement or withhold information, you may be barred from job consideration.

The Metropolitan Council is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and veteran-friendly employer. The Council is committed to a workforce that reflects the diversity of the region and strongly encourages persons of color, members of the LGBTQ community, individuals with disabilities, women, and veterans to apply. If you have a disability that requires accommodation during the selection process, please email HR-OCCHHealth@metc.state.mn.us.

Agency

Metropolitan Council

Address

390 Robert St. N.

St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101

Website

<https://metrocouncil.org>

Plant Operator Supplemental Questionnaire

*QUESTION 1

Applicant Instructions: The supplemental questions listed below are to further evaluate your education and experience and to determine your eligibility for this position. Answer each question completely and please do not type "see resume" otherwise your application will be considered incomplete, and you will not receive further consideration for this position. The experience you indicate in your responses should also be consistent with the Work History section of this application. If you attached a resume and/or cover letter to your application, it will be reviewed at the education and experience review step. I have read and understand the above instructions regarding supplemental questions.

- Yes
 No

*QUESTION 2

How did you first hear about this job opening?

- CareerForce Center
 Community Event/Organization
 Employee Referral
 Facebook
 Glassdoor
 Indeed
 Job Fair

- LinkedIn
- Metro Transit Bus Advertisement
- Twitter
- Website: governmentjobs.com
- Website: metrocouncil.org
- Website: metrotransit.org
- Website: minnesotajobnetwork.com
- Other

***QUESTION 3**

If you selected 'Other', please describe where you first heard about this job. if you selected 'Employee Referral' please enter the employee's first and last name, ID number (if known), and job title. Type N/A if not applicable.

***QUESTION 4**

Do you possess a high school diploma or GED?

- Yes
- No

***QUESTION 5**

Do you possess a valid driver's license with an acceptable driving record? (Your answer will be verified with a background check).

- Yes
- No

***QUESTION 6**

READ QUESTION CAREFULLY: Do you have a minimum of six (6) months of verifiable work experience in wastewater treatment, public utility, collections system or a heavy industrial environment -OR- Have you completed a Wastewater Certification Program or a Water Environment Technology degree?

- Yes
- No

***QUESTION 7**

Do you possess a State of Minnesota Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Class C or higher or any other license required by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)?

- Yes
- No

***QUESTION 8**

This position requires working in an environment that includes: 1) working with hazardous chemicals in potentially hazardous areas 2) working in areas with loud noises and obnoxious smells 3) working outdoors in hot, cold, or wet weather 4) working in confined spaces or heights. Are you willing and able to work in these conditions?

- Yes
- No

***QUESTION 9**

Are you able to meet the following physical requirements? Able to safely lift and carry portable pumps, hoses, and other equipment weighing up to 50 pounds for short distances. Ability to climb ladders, and descend/ascend stairs, grasp, bend, kneel, and reach. Ability to sit and stand for extended periods of times. Physically and medically able to be certified on donning respirator and safety equipment.

Yes

No

***QUESTION 10**

This job involves working different days, shifts, and locations including: --12-hour shifts (day/night) --Weekend shifts are possible --Work location may vary-you could be assigned to any of our treatment plants (locations listed on the posting).

Are you willing and able to work these hours/shifts/locations?

Yes

No

***QUESTION 11**

Please describe your experience in a wastewater facility, water collections system, public utility, or a heavy industrial environment. Include what type of work you did, tools you used, and skills needed to perform those work tasks. If you do not have this experience, indicate "N/A."

***QUESTION 12**

What computer skills/programs have you used? This could include SCADA, Word, Excel, Outlook and/or work order programs. Please briefly describe what you did with each program.

***QUESTION 13**

Outline roles you have had improving processes, safety or work practices. Briefly describe one or two examples where you have made a difference in those areas.

***QUESTION 14**

The Metropolitan Council values a workplace that is as diverse as the people we serve. Describe your experience working with people from backgrounds different than your own (race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability). If this does not apply to you, indicate "N/A."

***QUESTION 15**

If you are a Veteran, have you attached Form DD214? (Form DD214 MUST be attached DURING the posting period to receive Veterans Preference Points). If you are not a Veteran, you do not need to answer the question; indicate "N/A."

* Required Question