

As a Wastewater Maintenance Mechanic you would perform these types of duties:

- Service, install, repair and maintain pumps, blowers, compressors, motors, plumbing, boilers/HVAC, gas/comical system, hydraulics, centrifuges, pneumatics, polymer make-up systems, automated oil/grease lubrication systems, three (3) phase, single phase and direct current electrical systems. and electronics
- Perform building related servicing and repairs such as carpentry, painting, masonry, plumbing and mechanical work
- Perform light and emergency repairs on vehicles and roadworthy equipment
- Acts as lead person on work crews
- Assist in the administration of preventative maintenance and other maintenance scheduling/tracking programs
- Assist in purchasing and procuring parts and services
- Maintain and use a large technical maintenance and repair library
- Utilize gas and electric welding and cutting tools to fabricate parts and repair and maintain machinery and equipment
- Operate pipe threaders, a drill press/milling machine, grinders, a hydraulic press, torque wrenches, torque multipliers, overhead hoists/cranes, dial indicators, precision measuring equipment, volt-ohm meter, meg-ohm meter, current signal generator, and ballast/lamp testers
- Read and interpret electrical, hydraulic, piping and mechanical drawings and schematics

- Use test equipment and schematics to diagnose and troubleshoot equipment and systems
- Calibrate and maintain analog and digital data systems
- Repair and maintain process logic control (PLC) systems
- Assist with treatment plant operations



The City of Pueblo operates a Water Reclamation Facility capable of treating 19 million gallons of wastewater daily. At present the facility treats 11 million gallons of wastewater every day. Wastewater moves through the treatment process via a series of pumps, pipelines, and valves. Wastewater Maintenance Mechanics service and repair pumps, electric motors, and numerous other types of equipment to keep the facility functioning.

Wastewater Maintenance Mechanics perform heavy industry-type duties. Much of their work requires high levels of skill in analyzing mechanical and electrical problems and devising solutions.



City governments usually provide wastewater collection and treatment services. States and the federal government do not provide wastewater services. There are some private companies that operate wastewater treatment plants, but the plants themselves are owned by municipalities. So if you work as a wastewater operator, you will probably work for a city government. That usually means a steady job and good benefits.

## WHY WOULD ANYONE WANT TO WORK WITH WASTEWATER?

**First, wastewater collection and treatment is an essential service.**

Wastewater collection and treatment is an essential public health service. Many human diseases, including cholera, typhoid fever, hepatitis, and poliomyelitis, are discharged from infected individuals in human waste. Without wastewater collection to keep these infectious agents away from healthy people and without treatment to kill the microorganisms that cause the diseases, these illnesses can spread quickly through the human population, causing severe illness or death.

**Second, wastewater collection and treatment protects the environment.**

Human beings and animals produce bodily wastes. Many business activities also produce wastes containing chemicals in much higher concentrations than would occur naturally. Wastewater collection and treatment remove these wastes and chemicals before they overwhelm natural systems, killing fish and other wildlife and reducing our quality of life.

**Third, wastewater operators are the only line of defense.**

The men and women who work in wastewater collection and treatment are the only ones who do the work of protecting public health and the environment from human waste. Nobody else – not the Congress, not the EPA, no state organization – collects and treats wastewater. Without wastewater operators, human waste would endanger lives and ruin the environment.

It is a job you can be proud of. And it is a career that will never go away.

## MORE INFORMATION ABOUT A CAREER IN WASTEWATER COLLECTION AND TREATMENT?

If you would like more information about a career in the field of wastewater collection and treatment, the following resources will provide a starting point.

### City of Pueblo Wastewater Department

Nancy Keller ..... 553-2894

John Lindstrom ..... 553-2866

### On The Web

Water Environment Federation

<http://www.wef.org>

City of Pueblo

<http://www.pueblo.us>

(select City Departments/Contact Information, then select Wastewater at the bottom of the left-hand column)

Certification as a wastewater operator will improve your understanding of the maintenance tasks you perform.

Information on becoming a certified operator can be obtained at:

Colorado Operator Certification Program Office

<http://www.ocpoweb.com>

# WASTEWATER MAINTENANCE MECHANIC

## Career Opportunities



## PUEBLO WASTEWATER

Protecting Our City and Planet

*City of Pueblo*

