



Biologist #01963

City of Virginia Beach – Job Description

Date of Last Revision: 01-04-2016

FLSA Status: Exempt

Pay Plan: Administrative

Grade: 10

City of Virginia Beach Organizational Mission & Values

The City of Virginia Beach exists to enhance the economic, educational, social and physical quality of the community and provide sustainable municipal services which are valued by its citizens. The City of Virginia Beach organization is based upon a belief in the democratic process of government. This belief provides meaningful ways for citizens, reflecting the diversity of our City, to contribute to the development of public policy. This process is enhanced by organizational values which guide member performance within the Virginia Beach Quality Service System. These Values define our desired organizational culture. We value quality customer service; teamwork; leadership and learning; integrity; commitment; and inclusion and diversity.

Class Summary

Perform a variety of assignments related to the surveillance and control of mosquito populations and mosquito-borne diseases; and provide education and advice on these and other insect pests.

Representative Work Functions and Responsibilities

Ensure that mosquito populations and mosquito-borne diseases are monitored using the appropriate techniques to ensure control measures are accurately obtained; and collect and interpret this data to assist the mosquito control superintendent in making decisions concerning control measures.

May develop computer applications for various aspects of mosquito control, i.e., spreadsheets for data analysis, presentations for educational purposes, etc. in order that accurate statistical information is available and communicated effectively.

Conduct training to inform employees of proper work techniques; and conduct education programs to educate special interest groups, the general public and students on the biology and control of mosquitoes and other insects.

Perform necessary research on new products and methods of mosquito control in order to ensure the most efficient and effective usage of both manpower and chemical.

Supervise laboratory staff.

Perform other job duties requiring skills, knowledge and physical requirements as demanded by those duties described or less. Individual assignments will be determined by the supervisor based on then current workloads and department needs.

Performance Standards

Effectively handle comprehensive surveillance, regulatory and educational facets of mosquito control; consistently research state-of-the-art methods of monitoring and controlling mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases; and interpret and assist in enforcement of City, State and Federal rules and regulations of mosquito control.

Minimum Qualifications

Any combination of education and experience (above the high school level) equivalent to four (4) years in the field of biology which provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities such as entomologist or pest control entomologist.

Must be eligible to obtain, a Virginia Category 8 Pesticide Applicator's License.

Must have, or obtain, a current and valid Virginia or North Carolina driver's license in accordance with Virginia or North Carolina DMV driver's license eligibility requirements.

Special Requirements

All employees may be expected to work hours in excess of their normally scheduled hours in response to short-term department needs and/or City-wide emergencies.

Knowledge-Skills-Abilities Required to Perform Satisfactorily

A. Knowledge

1. Knowledge of mosquito surveillance and control techniques.
2. Knowledge of the principles of taxonomy.
3. Knowledge of vector-borne diseases.
4. Knowledge of algebraic functions.
5. Knowledge of the principles of physiology and chemistry.
6. Knowledge of microcomputer applications.
7. Knowledge of principles of research methodology.
8. Knowledge of mosquito bionomics.

B. Skills

1. Skill in instructing personnel and the general public in aspects of mosquito control.
2. Skill in dealing effectively with the general public.
3. Skill in supervising the work of others.
4. Skill in presenting proper public presentations to all levels of citizen groups.
5. Skill in operating a computer and using City standard software.
6. Skill in preparation of technical reports.
7. Skill in following taxonomic keys.

C. Abilities

1. Ability to readily identify mosquito species and other insects.
2. Ability to implement various surveillance techniques.
3. Ability to analyze pertinent population study data and recommend appropriate control measures.
4. Ability to prepare technical reports and inventories.
5. Ability to instruct and train others in the field of entomology and mosquito control.
6. Ability to effectively deal with the media and general public.

Working Conditions

The below stated working conditions are intended to provide a general overview of the environmental conditions inherent in the job setting, as well as the physical, mental, and sensory requirements necessary to perform the essential functions of positions in the noted job title. A more detailed description will be made available at the position (PCN) level.

NOTE: Per HR Policy 6.19, Americans with Disabilities, the City follows the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all hiring and employment decisions. The City shall not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring and employment practices. The City shall make

This description is intended to indicate the kinds of tasks and levels of work difficulty that will be required of positions that will be given this title and shall not be construed as declaring what the specific duties and responsibilities of any particular position shall be. It is not intended to limit or in any way modify the right of any supervisor to assign, direct, and control the work of employees under his or her supervision. The use of a particular expression or illustration describing duties shall not be held to exclude other duties not mentioned that are of similar kind or level of difficulty.

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| <i>reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of a qualified applicant or employee with a disability upon request unless the accommodation would cause an undue hardship on the operation of the City's business.</i> |
| Physical Requirements: <i>Physical refers to the requirement for physical exertion and coordination of limb and body movement.</i> |
| Requires medium to heavy work that involves walking, standing, stooping, bending, lifting, digging, pushing and raising objects and involves exerting up to 50 pounds of force on a frequent and recurring basis. |
| Mental Requirements: <i>Mental refers to the degree that the job involves cognitive activities, and use of mental processes</i> |
| Performs professional level work requiring the application of scientific, engineering, legal, or managerial methods in the solution of technical, administrative, or legal problems; applies extensive understanding of operating policies and procedures to solve complex problems or coordinates sub-professional work in these disciplines; requires continuous, close attention for accurate results and frequent exposure to unusual pressures. |
| Environmental Conditions: <i>Environmental refers to job conditions inherent to the job setting, including those that may lead to injury or health hazards even though precautions have been taken.</i> |
| The job may risk exposure to bright/dim light, dusts and pollen, extreme heat and/or cold, wet or humid conditions, noise, animals/wildlife, vibration, fumes, odors, traffic, moving machinery, electrical shock, hazardous chemicals, and height. |
| Sensory Requirements: <i>Sensory refers to hearing, sight, touch, taste, and smell required by the job.</i> |
| The job requires normal visual acuity, field of vision, hearing, speaking, color perception, and depth perception. |

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