

Collection System Investigator

FLSA Status: Covered
Bargaining Unit: District Council of Trade Unions (DCTU)

General Summary

Positions in this class are responsible for investigating sewer and stormwater problems; and locating, inspecting, and documenting findings regarding the condition, maintenance and repair needs of the city stormwater and sewer collection system. Determines responsibility for repairs to sanitary and stormwater systems such as laterals, culverts and other collection system facilities using locating equipment, camera units, survey equipment and other methods.

Distinguishing Characteristics

The Collections Systems Investigator class is distinguished from other classes by its focus on investigation of sewer and stormwater problems. The Collections Systems Investigator is distinguished from the Collection System Video Inspector by the formers primary responsibility for locating blockages, determining causes, and performing repairs.

Typical Duties/Examples of Work

1. Performs sewer system investigations by dye testing, operating a CCTV camera and other electronic locating equipment in order to document and provide information; makes audio/video recording of the sewer line and documents the conditions found.
2. Coordinates and leads the work activities of a crew in investigation; determines connections to sewers, or source problems; checks records of existing sewer system for connections; draws information on sewer system maps or creates records where none exist.
3. Investigates to locate source of reported illegal materials entering in the sewer system; locates sources of system leaks; performs field investigations, including flooding, and plugged culverts or ditches related to stormwater control.
4. Responds to sewage releases and flooding events, identifies the problem , location and then clears the blockage. Using various equipment including CCTV cameras, sonde units and other equipment, inspects pipe, determines responsibility for repairs (public or private)
5. Uses survey equipment to perform various repairs or modifications to the sanitary and stormwater collection systems.

6. Trains other employees in proper methods and equipment used in investigating and maintaining a sewer system, the equipment used and safety procedures used for inspection of sewer lines, both visually and electronically.
7. Performs mechanical and electrical repairs and maintenance of technical equipment; designs and fabricates special equipment needed.
8. Performs minor patching and repairs to sanitary and stormwater infrastructure.
9. Performs work in confined spaces, in and around hazardous and unknown atmospheres.
10. Responds to calls to work during emergencies.
11. Performs related duties as assigned.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge of: sewer and stormwater systems; maintenance and repair of pipe and seal repairs in a live sewer; confined space entry; work zone traffic controls; shoring regulations; state, federal, DEQ, and CSO regulations; CCTV inspections and procedures; sewer system construction, structure, and various materials used

Ability to: learn and use safe working practices; provide leadership; train others; use, maintain and repair technical equipment; stay current with changing rules, regulations and technologies; work effectively with co-workers in a diverse workforce, and respond appropriately to question/concerns from other employees and the public.

Skill in: recognizing and documenting defects in sewer lines. Reading instructions, utilizing GIS, asbuilt maps and interpreting quarter-section maps in the course of an investigation. Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with other employees, contractors, and property owners. Diagnosing and resolving equipment or facility problems; making needed repairs; use of computers; completing reports; performing measurements and arithmetic computations including multiplication, division, fractions, decimals and conversions.

Special Requirements

Valid Class “A” Commercial Driver’s License with airbrakes endorsement; some positions may require additional endorsements, certifications or licenses; confined space training.

Classification History:

Adopted: 11-20-11

Class created as a split of the Environmental Systems Maintenance
Technician

Working Conditions

Work in this class is typically performed in a field environment. Incumbent is typically required to negotiate rough terrain; to lift up to 50 pounds; to work outdoors in all weather conditions; to be called back to work during emergencies; to work in and around traffic, confined spaces and in hazardous and unknown atmospheres; to wear protective gear.