
BENTON COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL CONTROL OPERATOR JOB DESCRIPTION

PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT: Seasonal
JOB LOCATION: Benton County Mosquito Control, West Richland
DEPARTMENT: Field
SUPERVISOR: Kevin McClure, Field Supervisor
REVISION DATE: March 15, 2017

SUMMARY:

The Control Operator directly reports to the Field Supervisor and is responsible for providing mosquito control support for Benton County Mosquito Control. The Control Operator is responsible for larviciding, adulticiding, surveying, and controlling the mosquito population. Compliance with local, state, and federal law is a must.

PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conduct mosquito larviciding and adulticiding using physical, biological and/or chemical methods.
- Keep accurate records of sites visited and/or treated, using forms and hand held devices provided by the District.
- Update field maps and hand held devices when necessary.
- If assigned, perform maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds.
- Attend training sessions and safety meetings.
- Keep the Field Supervisor informed of progress and problems, and otherwise stay informed of District policies and procedures.
- Operate District provided vehicles, which may require the use of four-wheel drive trucks and ATV's, and operate specialized spray equipment.
- While working with a Control Assistant, remain within "eye-shot and hearing" of the Control Assistant while pesticides are being handled or pesticide applications are being made.
- Be safety oriented and accountable with District property.

- Communicate with the public and perform duties in a professional manner.
- Survey wetland habitats.
- Apply adulticides during evening applications.
- Operate truck mounted sprayer and consider all environmental issues of area prior to applying adulticides.
- Investigate complaints of problem mosquito areas.
- Sample mosquito populations.
- Coordinate with the public, county, and state agencies as necessary to reduce breeding sites.
- Maintain current knowledge of trends and developments in chemical application, state law and licensing qualifications.
- Successfully complete classroom and field training.
- Maintain access to mosquito development sites and promote proper drainage. This may include removing vegetation with a machete, digging or trenching.
- Work from the seasonal production calendar to accomplish tasks in a timely and professional manner, according to specified deadlines.
- Assist District Manager, Field Supervisor, GIS/Public Information Officer with various tasks as assigned.
- Perform additional duties and projects as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- High School Diploma or equivalent, which may include appropriate work experience to demonstrate a level of general knowledge and literacy sufficient to carry out the responsibilities of the position.
- Experience with Biology, Entomology, Public Health, sampling, or GIS (geographical information systems) are preferred.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be at least 18 years of age.

- Must obtain a Washington State Pesticide Applicator's license for Public Health within three weeks of employment.
- Possess a valid driver's license. Individuals must also have reliable transportation to and from work.
- Be in good physical condition (Able to walk over uneven sloping terrain while carrying backpack spray equipment of 40+ pounds.).
- Able to work independently and cooperatively with other employees and the public with minimal direct supervision.
- Able to accurately interpret pesticide labels and make proper pesticide applications using information contained within the label.
- Able to learn the operation of specialized equipment.
- Safety minded with the ability to keep detailed records and evaluate situations while accurately implementing an effective course of action.
- Responsible and accountable for his/her actions.

ABILITIES:

The successful candidate will share a passion for and commitment to the mission of Benton County Mosquito Control. Applicant must possess energy, enthusiasm, and initiative. The individual must be detail-orientated and capable of managing multiple tasks on a daily basis. Candidate must be experienced in hands-on work in support of and as part of a small, high-energy team. The ability to follow established, detailed procedures is necessary. Strong written and verbal communication skills are highly desirable. Experience in a science setting is preferred.