

**City of Ferndale  
Employment Opportunity  
Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance Worker & Operator-in-Training (OIT)  
OR  
Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator (Dependent Upon Qualifications)**

Jurisdiction: City of Ferndale  
 Job Title: W/WWTP Maintenance Worker & OIT  
 Employment Type: Full Time  
 Starting Salary for OIT: \$5,601/month  
 Salary Range for OIT: \$5,601 - \$6,658/month  
 Starting Salary for Operator: \$6,175/month  
 Salary Range for Operator: \$6,175 - \$7,340/month  
 Benefits: Medical, Dental, & Vision.  
 Washington State Public Employee Retirement System (PERS)  
 Generous sick leave/vacation accruals, plus 15 paid holidays per year

**TO APPLY:**

Submit letter of interest, [completed job application](#), and resume by mail or email to Susan Duncan, City of Ferndale, PO Box 936, Ferndale, WA 98248  
[susanduncan@cityofferndale.org](mailto:susanduncan@cityofferndale.org)

**Closing date: May 28, 2024. Only complete applications will be considered.**

<b>REPORTS TO:</b> Public Utilities Superintendent	<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> Public Works	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b> Union – Teamsters Non Exempt
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**JOB SUMMARY:**

The Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance Worker & Operator-in-Training (OIT) performs a wide variety of water and wastewater treatment plant, water distribution and pump station, wastewater collection, pump and lift station, and reservoir operations, maintenance and repairs. The work includes computer operations, lab tests, process controls, and troubleshooting plant and/or systems to ensure proper operation; however, the emphasis is on maintenance, and the ideal candidate will have a strong background in maintenance. The position works under Washington State regulations and procedures for water/wastewater treatment, serves as a utility worker as needed, and responds to complaints, questions, or other matters. **Applicants who are Certified Operators in Water and Wastewater are eligible to apply for the Operator position, rather than Operator in Training.**

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

Operator-in-Training receives on-the-job training on the water and wastewater treatment plants to learn how to successfully operate and maintain the facilities and systems on a daily basis. Training will be provided by Certified Operators.

1. Monitors operation of the water treatment plant and distribution system and wastewater treatment plant and collection system, using methods such as visual inspection of equipment, reading gauges, test equipment, instruments, and graphs.
2. Performs operational duties such as meter calibration, sampling and testing required by the State and Federal law and guidelines, including pH, chlorine free and total, turbidity, conductivity, TSS, B.O.D, TDS, hardness, fecal coliform and temperature of streams.
3. Records water and wastewater treatment lab process control data, reviews and completes reports, and maintains state records and reports.

4. Responds to system operations, emergencies, and alarms. Responds to 24-hour calls for water and wastewater treatment plant and pump station emergency situations.
5. Coordinates and performs maintenance activities for the water and wastewater treatment plant facilities and systems during normal operation and emergency situations, including cleaning, servicing and maintaining operational equipment.
6. Performs routine maintenance on equipment, such as lubrication, oil changes, and belt changes. Performs routine repair work, such as disassembly, repair, and installation of valves, switches, process instrumentation, motors, and related equipment.
7. Diagnoses problems and takes corrective action as required; inspects and observes facility operations for proper functioning of equipment and machinery; takes meter readings; checks valves and gauges.
8. Gathers, tabulates, and records a variety of data and maintains logs. Organizes and maintains maintenance schedules and records. Maintains tools and oversees parts inventory.
9. Assists with the coordination of specialized repair work with various contractors, suppliers, vendors and other resources.
10. Maintains grounds including mowing, weed spraying, weed eating, and performs a wide variety of building maintenance including janitorial work.
11. Performs all work in accordance with local, state, and federal laws, rules, and regulations and in compliance with all departmental safety policies and procedures. This includes using appropriate safety devices and equipment.

**ADDITIONAL WORK PERFORMED:**

1. Performs as a public works utility worker, if necessary, and helps respond to questions or other matters. Also responds to public works emergency service calls.
2. Completes on-the-job training assignments and continuing education classes for State certification testing and renewal.
3. Performs other duties and responsibilities as assigned.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

Work is performed both indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions at the water and wastewater plants, water and wastewater pump stations, and lift stations. The work is in a high-risk environment which requires special safety precautions, i.e., working near heavy operating equipment, confined space, high voltage, toxic or volatile chemicals, noxious gases, heights, and with exposure to raw sewage. Employees may be required to wear protective clothing such as goggles, coveralls, rain gear, hard hats, safety vests, oxygen sensors, safety harness, gloves, or face shields and ear protectors, and use of respirator and self-contained breathing apparatus.

**EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:**

- Three years of work experience in the operation, repair, and maintenance of machinery, pumps, instruments, or mechanical equipment.

- Familiarity with and knowledge of the functions and maintenance requirements of equipment, such as hydraulics, electrical and mechanical devices, including heavy/light engines, generators and pumps.
- Familiarity with and knowledge of the tools, instruments, equipment and techniques commonly used in the performance of related tasks, such as, hand and power tools including welding, pipe fitting, and fabricating machinery and tools.
- Completion of a high school education, or its equivalent. An Associate's degree or vocational training certificate is desirable.
- Experience using computers and common software programs (word processing and database) and ability to type.
- Prior work experience at a water and/or wastewater treatment plant is desirable.

Any equivalent combination of education and experience that provides the applicant with the knowledge, skills and abilities required to perform the job.

For promotion to Operator (in addition to the experience and training requirements listed above):

- 18 months of work experience at the City of Ferndale water and wastewater treatment plants. Previous work experience at another water and/or wastewater treatment plan may be substituted for some or all of the City of Ferndale experience, if approved by the Public Utilities Superintendent.
- Certified as Washington State Waterworks Operator (OIT and Level 1) and Wastewater Operator (OIT and Group 1).
- For employee hired at the OIT level, must receive satisfactory employee performance evaluation before being promoted to Operator.

#### **NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

- Obtain Washington State Waterworks Operator (OIT and Level 1) and Wastewater Operator (OIT and Group 1) Certifications within 24 months of employment. The employee will be encouraged to obtain the Waterworks Operator Level 2, Wastewater Operator Group II, Water Distribution Manager group I and Cross connection control Certifications. State Public Operator Pesticide license, laws and safety endorsement and turf and ornamental endorsement, within 18 months of employment
- Must be able to report to treatment plant for emergency call-outs.
- Valid Washington Driver's License and a safe driving record.
- Obtain First Aid, CPR and AED cards within 6 months of employment.
- Physical ability to perform essential functions of the job. Also, must pass job related physical capacities evaluation at time of hire.
- Candidate must submit to and pass a pre-employment drug and alcohol screening at City of Ferndale expense.