
BENTON COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL CONTROL OPERATOR JOB DESCRIPTION

PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT: Seasonal
JOB LOCATION: Benton County Mosquito Control, West Richland
DEPARTMENT: Field
SUPERVISOR: Stephen Ingalls, Field Supervisor
REVISION DATE: February 26, 2020

SUMMARY:

The Control Operator reports directly to the Field Supervisor and is responsible for conducting mosquito control activities for Benton County Mosquito Control. The Control Operator is responsible for larviciding, adulticiding, surveying, and controlling mosquito populations within the District boundaries.

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.
- Attend training sessions and safety meetings.
- Successfully complete classroom and field training.
- Keep the Field Supervisor informed of work progress and issues needing discussion or immediate action, 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.
- Be safety oriented and accountable with District property.
- Communicate with the public and perform duties in a professional manner.

- Survey wetland habitats and sample mosquito populations.
- Investigate service requests in a timely manner.
- If necessary, apply adulticides during the evening hours as assigned.
- Operate truck mounted sprayer and consider all negative impacts prior to applying adulticides (i.e., pedestrians, environmental concerns, location of beehives in proximity to the spray route, location of organic crops, etc.).
- Coordinate with the public, county, and state agencies as necessary to reduce breeding sites.
- Maintain current knowledge of trends and developments in chemical applications, state law and licensing requirements.
- Maintain access to mosquito sites and promote proper drainage. This may include removing vegetation with a machete, digging or trenching. Permits may be required before performing these tasks.
- Work from the seasonal calendar (schedule of events) to accomplish tasks in a timely and professional manner, according to specified deadlines.
- Assist District Manager, Field Supervisor, and the Assistant Manager with various tasks as assigned including the spring tire drive event.
- Compliance with local, state, and federal law is a must.
- If assigned, perform maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds.
- 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, field sampling, GIS (geographical information systems), or Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS/Drones) is 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 on the label or supplemental literature provided by the manufacturer (labelling).
- Able to learn the operation of specialized equipment including computers, tablets and "smart" phones, and other equipment utilized in the field.
- 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 simultaneously. 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 science-based education or employment is preferred.