

# Classification Description



**Title:** Hazardous Waste Technician  
**Department:** WPES  
**Job Code:** 0331  
**Pay Range:** 15  
**FLSA Status:** Non-exempt

**Bargaining Unit:** AFSCME 3580  
**Established:** 1990  
**Revised:** 2021, 9/2023  
**EEO Category:** Paraprofessional

## CLASSIFICATION DESCRIPTION

The Hazardous Waste Technician will receive, process, and dispose of household and Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQG) hazardous waste collected at facilities and neighborhood collection sites under the direction of the Hazardous Waste Supervisor. Responsibilities will include responding to emergencies and chemical releases in the Hazardous Waste Facility, transfer station, and remote collection sites.

## DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The Hazardous Waste Technician differs from the Hazardous Waste Specialist by performing work that is directly related to handling hazardous waste. The Technician works under the Specialist.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Receives, sorts, inspects, manifests, and disposes of incoming household and VSQG hazardous waste.
2. Assesses incoming hazardous waste loads for safety hazards and responds accordingly.
3. Determines the regulatory status of generators as required by DEQ to authorize the acceptance of hazardous wastes at collection facilities and event sites.
4. Categorizes labpacks materials and chemicals into appropriate hazard classes pursuant to DOT and ODEQ regulations.
5. Identifies unknown materials using wet chemistry analysis techniques to determine the hazard class for proper disposal. Prepares and assists in recordkeeping and reporting functions including safety and incident reports, inventory counts, transport manifests and other facility operation forms to support compliance with applicable federal state and local laws and regulations.
6. Participates and/or leads coordination of lead areas including but not limited to: VSQG, Shipping, Lab, Supplies, Non-manifested Waste, ERT, Education, Reuse and Equipment Maintenance.
7. Conducts load checks by investigating illegal disposal of hazardous waste in solid waste stream to determine generator. Works with appropriate authorities to resolve compliance issue.
8. Collects samples, including of potential asbestos contaminated materials, and prepares for delivery to outside laboratory services for analysis and identification.
9. Responds to emergencies and chemical releases following established Incident Command System procedures.
10. Assists in the cleanup of spills from incoming waste loads.

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11. Provides technical and educational information to the public. Addresses customer questions or concerns.
12. Assists in training new Hazardous Waste Technicians, variable hour employees, and student interns.
13. Locates and isolates radioactive sources from transfer station loads.
14. Performs out of class work as a Hazardous Waste Specialist as assigned and as outlined by department.

It is the responsibility of all Metro employees to:

1. Actively participates on committees and/or attends meetings as assigned.
2. Fulfills Metro's core values of public service, excellence, teamwork, respect, innovation and sustainability.
  - Builds and maintains positive relationships and contributes to a positive team atmosphere; engages others in ways that foster respect and trust.
  - Encourages and appreciates diversity in people and ideas – seeks to understand the perspectives of others.
  - Provide excellent customer service – assists the public, public officials and agency partners, and other employees in a professional and courteous manner with the goal of meeting or exceeding expectations.
  - Practices continuous improvement - researches new possibilities, contributes ideas and stays current in field of work.
  - Demonstrates sustainable practices in applicable field and generally for resource use and protection.
  - Works assigned schedule (if applicable) and exhibits regular and predictable attendance.
  - Works in a safe manner and follows safety policies, practices and procedures.
  - Complies with Metro and Metro's visitor venues policies, procedures and applicable work rules; applicable law and collective bargaining agreements as appropriate.
3. Performs assigned duties during an emergency situation.
4. Performs other duties as assigned.

### **JOB SPECIFICATIONS**

#### **Education/Licensing and Work Experience:**

- High School Diploma or GED and,
- One year of specialized training or experience in a field related to hazardous waste management or,
- Any combination of experience, education, and training which provides the equivalent scope of knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform the essential job duties.

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## Special Requirements:

- Possession of a valid Oregon Driver's License. May be required to obtain an Oregon Commercial Driver's License within three months of hire.
- DEQ Certification for AHERA Accredited Asbestos Inspector.
- Metro forklift certification.
- HAZWOPER certification.

## Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of hazardous waste handling and disposal requirements.
- Knowledge of EPA, DEQ, DOT, OSHA and other regulations pertaining to hazardous waste.
- Knowledge of environmental science principles.
- Knowledge of basic software programs such as Access, Excel and Word.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with contractors, haulers, Metro staff and the public.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Ability to provide quality customer service.
- Ability to maintain calm in stressful situations.
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to work outdoors in all types of weather conditions.
- Ability to operate all tools and equipment in a safe manner consistent with procedures and training.
- Ability to apply situational awareness to ensure one's safety and the safety of all those on site during busy operations involving site traffic, heavy equipment, hazardous materials, and emergency situations.
- Ability to perform essential duties and responsibilities.
- Ability to perform (with or without a reasonable accommodation) the physical demands in the work environment and operate the tools and equipment.
- Ability to successfully pass the background check and screening requirements if required for the position.

## SUPERVISION RECEIVED

- Lead direction is received from a Hazardous Waste Specialist. Overall supervision is received from an assigned Supervisor or Manager.

## SUPERVISION EXERCISED

- May lead variable hour workers, interns, or volunteers.

## TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED; PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

- Operate equipment including, but not limited to: Metro vehicles, forklift, material handling equipment, waste processing equipment, monitoring equipment, and hand tools.

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### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- May require frequent or continuous standing, stooping, bending, twisting, walking, talking, sitting, use of fingers, grasping, handling and good general hearing.
- Occasional reaching, feeling, repetitive motions of the hands/wrists, kneeling, and climbing.
- Lift and/or carry up to 50 pounds and push and/or pull up to 1000 pounds.
- Work indoors and outdoors in inclement weather.

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*The classification description indicates the general nature and level of work of positions grouped within this classification; it is not intended to be a comprehensive inventory of all duties and responsibilities, job specifications, work environment or other characteristics of a specific position. The classification description is not an employment agreement between the employee and Metro or Metro's visitor venues and is subject to change by Metro. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential duties.*