

Pest Control Operator

DEFINITION

This is specialized work in the control of mosquitoes, rodents and various other insect and vertebrate pests.

Employees of this class neutralize pests through control measures such as pesticide application, baiting and trapping. Surveys are conducted to determine pest locations, infestation levels and the effectiveness of control programs; incumbents also investigate specific public complaints concerning all types of pests. Reports are completed on these activities in addition to the daily chemical records that are submitted to a supervisor for review. Decisions such as spray timing, the kinds of chemicals to be used, work schedules and job priorities are made by a supervisor, whereas decisions such as the exact spraying route are left to the incumbent. Oral or written instructions are provided daily from a Pest Control Foreman, who also ensures compliance with the standards set out by the Parks Department, the Alberta Department of Environment, and Pest Management Services. Supervision is exercised over labourers participating in mosquito abatement or other pest control programs.

TYPICAL DUTIES*

Assigns, supervises and participates in the work of labourers involved in applying pesticides to mosquito larvae developmental sites and adult mosquito harbourage areas; applies other pesticides to control tree pest insects such as caterpillars, aphids, budworms and sawfly larvae infesting public parks, boulevards and natural areas.

Participates in the control of structural pests such as mice, silverfish, birds, cockroaches and flies found in City facilities by using various chemicals. Uses baiting, trapping and chemicals to control rodent pests such as bats, gophers and ground hogs found on public lands.

Controls aquatic weeds and other plants found in the lakes of ornamental parks.

Investigates and attempts to resolve complaints concerning any of the above pests; maintains daily chemical record sheets listing what pesticides were used, areas treated and the types of pests encountered.

Conducts general surveys to determine pest locations, infestation levels and the effectiveness of control programs; prepares reports and maps which outline survey results.

Calibrates sprayers to ensure the proper rate of application and performs minor maintenance on assigned equipment.

Performs related duties as required.

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KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Knowledge of the methods, materials and equipment used in the control of insect and vertebrate pests.

Knowledge of the occupational hazards and safety precautions applicable to the work.

Ability to use and perform minor maintenance on spraying equipment.

Ability to assign and supervise the work of subordinates.

Ability to maintain records and prepare written reports.

Sufficient strength and agility to perform the required work.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Job Level

Completion of the tenth school grade or an equivalent combination of training and experience. One year of experience in pesticide application and related pest control work, including demonstrated supervisory potential. The incumbent must be willing to enrol in Purdue's Correspondence Course in Pest Control Technology or an equivalent program. Possession of a Pesticide Applicator's License and a Class 5 Alberta Motor Vehicle Operator's License.

** This is a class specification and not an individualized job description. A class specification represents and defines the general character, scope of duties and responsibilities of all positions within a specific job classification. It is not intended to describe nor does it necessarily list the essential job functions for a specific position in a classification. Positions may perform some of the duties listed above but this does not necessarily qualify for placement into this classification.*

Salary Plan	<u>10M</u>	<u>10A</u>	<u>10B</u>	<u>10C</u>
Job Code	0019			

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 Previous Updates:
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