

## MOSQUITO & VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN

### **DEFINITION**

Mosquito Control Technicians are certified employees who are trained to design and carry out management plans that prevent the emergence of adult mosquitoes from known sources. The technician must know and understand the principles of chemical, biological and physical control as used in the District's integrated pest management program. Additionally he/she must know how to sample for adult and larval stages of mosquitoes.

### **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

This is a specialized single classification within the Department of Agriculture.

### **REPORTS TO**

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights of Measures or Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights & Measures.

### **CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED**

None.

### **EXAMPLES OF DUTIES**

Performs countywide surveys, premise inspections and sampling of vector breeding sources, such as ponds, catch basins, marshy areas, horse stables, residential premises, swimming pools, and pastures; collects samples and performs field analysis and identification of mosquito species and or stage of larval development and determines appropriate treatment; treats infested areas with pesticides and re-inspects sprayed areas to evaluate effective kill; maintains detailed maps and records of surveys and applications; cuts vegetation and prepares trails for equipment and/or personnel movement; performs general labor and simple equipment operations; and performs other duties as assigned.

### **TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

Must be able to read fine print, effectively use a two-way communication system and converse with the public. Must possess the physical strength to walk in 2-3 feet of water, climb in and out of vehicles and go up and down steep embankments. Must possess hand and finger coordination to use operational equipment, fill out records, and use hand and power tools. Must possess sufficient strength to carry a 3 to 5 gallon spray can weighing up to 45 pounds; must have the stamina to walk in and along creeks and marshes for up to 7 hours a day; and also must be able to work outdoors in all types of weather

## **MOSQUITO CONTROL TECHNICIANS - 2**

### **TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS**

Work is performed both in office and outdoor environments in all types of weather; some exposure to pesticides, smoke, gasses, and fumes; continuous contact with staff and the public.

### **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**

#### Knowledge of:

- Mosquito surveillance and identification techniques
- Pesticide application procedures.
- Application equipment used by the District and be able to recognize and repair common mechanical problems.

#### Ability to:

- Efficiently and effectively organize areas of responsibility.
- Answer questions about the biology and ecology of mosquitoes.
- Answer questions regarding pesticides and their use.
- Prioritize service requests and respond as quickly as possible.
- Operate both manual and power application equipment.
- Operate different types of off-road all terrain vehicles such as ATV's and pick-up trucks outfitted with powered and hand spray equipment; keep equipment in working order.
- Perform mechanical maintenance, repairs and fabrication of equipment.
- Work independently.
- Understand and carry out oral and written directions.
- Inform immediate supervisor of any conditions that are unlawful, unsafe, or in need of special attention.
- Maintain effective communications and good relations with the public.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with landowners and state and local organizations.
- Use office equipment including computers, GPS units, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

Training and Experience: Any combination of training and experience which would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and abilities would be:

Graduation from high school or equivalent is the minimum requirement. Course work from an accredited college in biological or other science is desirable.

Special Requirements: Possession of an appropriate California Driver's License issued by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. No experience necessary but work in pest control, community service or public relations desirable.

Possession of or ability to obtain within 6 months of employment Certifications by the State of California Department of Health Services in pesticide application and mosquito control.