

Jurisdiction: Schuyler County

Jurisdictional Class: Non-Competitive

Reviewed: April 4, 2005; Updated: March 2, 2011; Reviewed: June 23, 2011; Revised: July 12, 2016

## **WATERSHED INSPECTOR**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a management and administrative position involving responsibility for planning, organizing, directing, evaluating and participating in preventing pollution or contamination of the watershed. The duties consist of routine patrols of the watershed area, inspections of rural individual water supplies and individual sewage disposal system and investigations of violations of rules and regulations for the protection of the water supply. Activities are performed under the direction of the Director of Public Health with considerable latitude in the exercise of independent judgment. Completes related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Inspects rural water supplies and sewage disposal systems in the watershed area

Visits and reports on conditions at individual rural sewage treatment facilities in the watershed area

Patrols watershed and specified zones on foot or by car to ensure compliance of rules and regulations to remove or prevent sources of contamination or pollution

Ensure local law remains current and reflects state changes as required

Maintain information system and submit all reports and data as required

Prepares a variety of records and reports

Responds to and submits written reports on consumer complaints of pollution and dirty, odorous or water and sewage system issues

Advises contractors and homeowners in proper construction methods and operation of rural sanitation facilities

Represent the county in areas of pure water and overall watershed concerns as required

Takes samples of water system for analysis by laboratory of bacteriological and chemical components

Checks rural sanitary systems at time of property transfers and approves or recommends system improvements or alterations before finalization of transfer, at the request of lending institution or property owners

Performs on-site consultation and inspection of individual new water systems installation to ensure code compliance

Collection of fees and payments at the time of service, when possible

Assist in the development of the Watershed budget

Collection of fees and payments at the time of service, when possible

Supervises the work of the watershed assistant

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

#### **Analytical/Assessment Skills**

Collects valid and reliable quantitative and qualitative data

Describes assets and resources that can be used for improving the health of the community

**Policy Development/Program Planning Skills**

Good knowledge of watershed rules and regulations and the common causes of watershed pollution and contamination

**Communication Skills**

Ability to be courteous, yet firm, with the public

Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions

Has the ability to prepare accurate and concise reports

**Cultural Competency Skills**

Ability to work with all socioeconomic levels, ethnic groups and cultures within the community

**Community Dimensions of Practice Skills**

Ability to develop cooperative relationships with associates and deal effectively with the public

Ability to work with contractors, home builders, inspectors and property owners to facilitate the design and construction of water and waste water home facilities

**Public Health Sciences Skills**

Good knowledge of rural water supply and sewage disposal systems construction, installation and operation

Good knowledge of common causes of watershed pollution and contamination

Good knowledge of principles of soil science regarding percolation

**Financial Planning and Management Skills**

Possesses a working knowledge of budgets

Has the ability to supervise, plan and organize the work of others

**Leadership and Systems Thinking Skills**

Uses evaluation results to improve program and organizational performance

Contributes to development of a vision for a healthy community

Willingness to work under adverse weather conditions

Ability to swim and travel long distances by foot in rugged terrain

Physical condition that is commensurate with the demands of the position

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- A. Possess a Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four year college or university of which thirty (30) credit hours must be in physical and biological sciences, and have satisfactorily completed a training course approved by the State Health Department within one year of appointment; or
- B. Five (5) years of experience as a Watershed Inspector Assistant deemed satisfactory by the Public Health Director and have satisfactorily completed a training course approved by the State Health Department.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** Must possess a valid NYS driver's license