

DELTA VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN III / MECHANIC

Position Characteristics:

The Vector Control Technician / Mechanic, in representing this District and its control program before the public, have as their primary responsibility the protection of the public health and safety of the community. This is accomplished by first documenting in the prescribed manner, precisely when, where, by whom and under what circumstances conditions conducive to vector production have occurred. The Vector Control Technician / Mechanic then exercises technical discretion in evaluating each vector occurrence and in initiating the proper control procedures: a personal contact, referral, the selection and application of the appropriate pesticide, minor source reduction work, introduction of a biological control agent; or, any of a number of procedures the District utilizes in its comprehensive vector control program.

The Vector Control Technician / Mechanic has successfully completed at least one and as many as nine certification tests: Engine Repair (Test A1); Automatic Transmission/ Transaxle (Test A2); Manual Drive Train and Axles (Test A3); Suspension and Steering (Test A4); Brakes (Test A5); Electrical/Electronic Systems (Test A6); Heating and Air Conditioning (Test A7); Engine Performance (Test A8); and Light Vehicle Diesel Engines (Test A9). The Mechanic classification requires recertification every five years to retain the distinction from the Vector Control Technician III classification.

The Vector Control Technician / Mechanic must be a high school graduate in good physical condition, with a valid California Driver's License. They must be certified by the State of California in Mosquito Control within 18 months of their employment. Each must be certified as an ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) Automobile Technician and remain current in such certification(s). Each must successfully complete additional training and certifications as may become requisite. CPR and First Aid certificates must be earned within two years of employment and their currency maintained.

Examples of Duties:

The Vector Control Technician / Mechanic is responsible for accomplishing control work within an assigned zone. Primary responsibility is usually that of mosquito abatement, but may also be assigned responsibility for other vector control. Responsibilities include the application of comprehensive vector control measures with major emphasis on activities designed to progressively reduce the vector population within an assigned area.

The Vector Control Technician / Mechanic is responsible for scheduling inspections and operations in their assigned zone, and for exercising judgment in evaluating vector producing conditions and implementing approved vector control or management techniques for the particular situation.

Conducts surveys of the assigned zone for mosquito breeding sources, such as ponds, catch basins, marshy areas, rainwater and pastures. Maintains records of flooding patterns and practices and other factors conducive to mosquito breeding and of significance to timing of operations. Inspects sources for mosquito breeding and collects samples for identification of species. Determines stages of larval development and notes other environmental factors such as drainage patterns, water related plants and biological control agents.

Applies pesticides in target areas for vector control when needed. Re-inspects treated areas to evaluate effectiveness of control effort; keeps records of work completed; advises householders regarding mosquito problems and mosquito control techniques.

May respond to service requests for fly prevention. Performs premises inspections, consults, and provides educational material.

Drives automotive equipment and operates hand and power spraying equipment; keeps spraying equipment in working order, performs simple maintenance and repairs. May be assigned on an as-needed basis to assist in mechanical maintenance, repairs and fabrications; may be assigned to assist in maintenance and repair of buildings and grounds.

Prepares and revises operational maps of zones and areas in the District, including properties, ponds, topographic characteristics, and other features relevant to mosquito control operations. Records significant changes on maps and compiles data as directed on work done, types of service, costs, and mosquito population history, and otherwise assists in collecting and compiling data. Utilizes service requests to evaluate inspection schedule.

Performs tasks according to the certification(s) held as listed in Appendix A.

Performs physical labor such as brushing creeks, cutting walking paths to source locations and removing sewer and storm drain covers.

Attends training sessions, reads agency manuals and otherwise keeps informed of policies and procedures, keeps supervisors informed of progress and problems, and requests consultation as required.

Knowledge and Skills:

Has working knowledge of vector control equipment, vehicle operation and safety practices; working knowledge in the proper use of pesticides and safety precautions.

Must understand the Safety Data Sheets and pesticide labeling information as it pertains to each pesticide's appropriate application and handling procedures.

Must be able to make field identification of common District vector species and their habitat; familiarity with life cycles of assigned vectors.

Must exhibit a working knowledge of field and administrative functions and operations, including maintenance of field condition charts, daily activity reports, and service request response procedures.

Must be able to work independently and responsibly to organize and conduct assigned control activities in the field; to make accurate observations and keep detailed records; to work cooperatively and effectively with other employees and the public; and to evaluate situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action. Must be able to perform maintenance to equipment according to certification as well as basic maintenance and repairs.

Minimum Qualifications:

High school graduate. Work experience involving manual labor and the uses of machinery performing skilled or semi-skilled operations. Some courses in biology or relevant work experience in pest management.

Must be able to read and write capably and be able to communicate with the general public. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form.

Must be able and willing to do heavy physical labor.

Must be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide in all units of measure, using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals. Ability to relate concepts such as rate, ratio, percentages, area, and volume to practical situations.

Must be able to work independently without direct supervision.

Must have a valid California driver's license with a good driving record and be insurable using the accepted guidelines of the insurance provider. DMV printout required.

Become certified by the State of California in Mosquito Control within 18 months of employment.

Possess at least one and as many as nine ASE certifications.

Successful completion of pre-employment physical examination and drug screening.

Physical Demands:

Physical activity:

	<u>Amount of Time</u>		
	<u>1/3</u>	<u>1/3-2/3</u>	<u>over 2/3</u>
Stand		X	
Walk		X	
Sit		X	
Use hands to finger, feel or handle			X
Reach with hands and arms			X
Climb or balance			X
Stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl			X
Talk or hear			X
Taste or smell			X

Lifting or force exertion requirements:

	<u>Amount of Time</u>		
	<u>1/3</u>	<u>1/3-2/3</u>	<u>over 2/3</u>
Up to 10 pounds			X
Up to 25 pounds		X	
Up to 50 pounds		X	
Up to 100 pounds	X		
Over 100 pounds	X		

Vision requirements:

Close vision (clear vision at 20 inches or less):
Identification of species and stage of larval development.

Distance vision (clear vision at 20 feet or more):
Environmental evaluation, control of vector source and safety.

Peripheral vision (ability to observe an area that can be seen up and down or to the left and right while eyes are fixed on a given point):

Environmental evaluation, control of vector source and safety.

Depth perception (three-dimensional vision, ability to judge distances and spatial relationships):
Environmental evaluation, control of vector source and safety.

Work Environment:

	1/3	1/3-2/3	Amount of time over 2/3
Wet or humid conditions	X		
Work near moving mechanical parts		X	
Work in outdoor weather conditions			X
Fumes of airborne particles	X		
Toxic or caustic chemicals		X	
Extreme heat		X	

The position typically experiences a moderate noise level consistent with an office with computers and printers, or light traffic. Occasionally the noise level is consistent with an automotive repair shop.