

VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIAN I/II**DEFINITION**

Under general supervision, implements plans to control and eliminate harmful insect infestations throughout the County; assists in the identification of vector-borne diseases and the implementation of practices for their control; assists in the maintenance and repair of vehicles, equipment and facilities; performs related work as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Vector Control Technician I is the entry-level class of this series. Initially under close supervision, incumbents perform the more routine vector control and maintenance duties while learning the more skilled and complex work. As experience is gained, duties become more diversified and are performed under more general supervision. This class is alternately staffed with Vector Control Technician II and incumbents may advance to the higher level after gaining experience and demonstrating proficiency which meet the qualifications for the higher level class and after obtaining state certification in mosquito, vertebrate and invertebrate vector control.

Vector Control Technician II is the journey level class in this series, fully competent to perform a wide range of vector control and equipment maintenance duties. It is distinguished from Vector Control Supervisor in that the latter is the first full supervisory level of the series and assigns, directs and reviews the work of a staff of Vector Control Technicians.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (Illustrative Only)

- Identifies and inspects areas prone to mosquito infestations; collects samples and identifies mosquito types.
- Performs physical control at infestation sites by digging drainage ditches or by removing beaver dams or other obstacles to drainage.
- Calibrates spray equipment, mixes chemicals and operates manual and power spray equipment to apply pesticides.
- Responds to calls from the public regarding yellow jacket nests and infestations; collects samples and recommends methods of treatment.
- Using appropriate safety equipment including a bee suit, treats the nesting area using liquid spray or dusting pesticide. Responds to calls from the public regarding dead rodents and investigates for the presence of plague.
- Sets live traps for rodents, anesthetizes animals and collects fleas by brushing the animal, takes blood samples and releases animal; sends samples to Sacramento to test for the presence of plague; implements flea control program by setting bait stations, spraying and dusting den areas.
- Distributes educational material regarding plague to residents and at campgrounds; explains the symptoms of plague and how it is spread; explains control programs.
- Participates in vector control programs for other problem insects, parasites and vertebrates as required.
- Identifies areas where lyme disease may be a problem; collects ticks and packs and ships for testing; posts notices and makes literature available.
- Performs preventive maintenance and repair to a variety of vehicles and power equipment; repairs and overhauls gasoline and diesel engines, transmissions and electrical systems; performs body work on vehicles, paints and fabricates specialized equipment; repairs and maintains small gasoline motors and

power spraying equipment.

- Performs building maintenance activities such as shop additions; forms for and pours concrete; frames exterior walls and partitions; applies interior and exterior wall surfaces; modifies electrical and plumbing systems.
- Performs ground maintenance such as installing sprinkler systems, planting vegetation, mowing lawns, watering and weeding planted areas.
- Maintains records of pesticides applied and of vector infestations treated; enters information into computerized tracking system.
- Operates a variety of vehicles and power equipment such as four-wheel drive vehicles, 3- and 4-wheel all terrain vehicles, front-end loaders, backhoes and a variety of vehicle trailers and hand-held power equipment.
- Operates snow removal equipment such as front-end loaders, dump trucks, plows and snow blowers to remove snow and ice from County facilities.
- **Assists with Environmental Management outreach programs such as bear restraint container compliance, recycling, etc.**

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QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Common insect, rodent and similar vectors, their habitats, foods and life cycles.
- Methods of vector control, including biological methods, the use of pesticides and the operation of tools and equipment.
- Laws and regulations regarding the use of pesticides.
- Safety procedures and methods related to the work.
- Methods, techniques, parts, tools and materials used in the maintenance and repair of vehicles and spray equipment.
- Basic principles of biology, entomology and related life science subjects.
- Basic recordkeeping principles and practices.

Skill in:

- Identifying a wide variety of insects, rodents and other vectors.
- Applying the techniques and principles of vector control agents and materials.
- Performing thorough inspections and investigations of complaints.
- Preparing clear, concise and complete reports and other written documentation.
- Operating and maintaining a variety of pesticide application equipment. Instructing the public in proper vector infestation prevention techniques.
- Performing preventive maintenance and repair on a variety of vehicles and power equipment.
- Maintaining accurate records and files. Understanding and following oral and written instructions.
- Establishing and maintaining effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of the work.

Other Requirements:

Must possess a valid driver's license and be able to operate a four-wheel drive vehicle. Must be available for on-call and overtime duty during winter months for snow-removal operations. Within one year of employment, must obtain certification as a Mosquito Control Technician through the California Department of Health Services. Must possess State certifications in Mosquito Control, Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control and Vertebrate Vector Control at the II level.

Education and Experience:

Vector Control Technician I: High School diploma or equivalent GED certificate **AND** one year of experience in grounds keeping or gardening which has included the safe application of pesticides.

Vector Control Technician II: In addition to the above, one year of experience in vector control at a level equivalent to the County's class of Vector Control Technician I

NOTE: The above qualifications are typically accepted ways of obtaining the required knowledge and skills.