

DRWA is hiring!



The Delaware Rural Water Association has an employment opportunity for a full-time Drinking Water Circuit Rider starting January 1, 2025.

Employment Requirements

- Five years experience working for, operating, maintaining, or managing a rural/community drinking water system.
- Technical knowledge of rural and/or small system needs and successful methods of meeting those needs.
- Knowledge of financial, managerial, and operational characteristics of effectively run water utilities, and the ability to identify and describe those issues to field personnel and decision-makers.
- Ability to effectively communicate orally and in writing, with operations specialists, decision makers, regulatory agency personnel, and other professionals.
- Knowledge and understanding of regulations, monitoring, and reporting requirements.
- Extensive travel is expected both in and out of state.
- Moderate experience with technology: cell phones, laptops, and Microsoft is beneficial.
- Current State of Delaware Water Operator's License

Duties:

Onsite Technical Assistance

The Circuit Rider program is DRWA's core service. As such, the successful candidate will travel extensively throughout the state to offer regulatory assistance to small and rural community water systems. Regulatory assistance, for this position, is defined as all areas of operation, maintenance, management, security, finance and funding, public health, and environmental impacts.

Technical assistance will be provided on a 1:1 and hands-on instructional method, therefore allowing water operators and personnel to 'learn then do' with professional guidance.

On-site assistance must geographically represent the State and Circuit Riders must provide at least 30 monthly technical assistance contacts. Therefore, whole-state

coverage is a requirement. Assistance is to be provided to rural, unincorporated small municipal water systems and municipals with populations under 10,000.

Circuit Riders respond to requests and inquiries from water systems operators, consumers, governmental personnel, and others. Requests are prioritized to those with high health risks from improper or lack of treatment and economically disadvantaged.

Training

This position requires a train-the-trainer-type mentality. As such, and as a funding requirement, attendance at the National Rural Water In-Service and WaterPro Conference is required each year. Knowledge and learning from these events are then presented to water system personnel and decision-makers for their use.

Additionally, this position is expected to review and have a working knowledge of technical standards, regulations, and policies developed by state and federal agencies.

Circuit Riders are called upon to assist with training courses offered by DRWA and the Apprenticeship Program. In addition, participation in DRWA events such as the annual Conference, Expo, Clay Shoot, Golf Outing, etc. is mandatory.

DRWA Membership

Members are the core of our Association. The expectation is that member inquiries and requests are answered professionally and in a reasonable time frame.

Communication with State and Federal Agencies

DRWA partners with many State Agencies. Circuit Riders will maintain positive relationships with those partners, assist when called upon, and help provide tangible solutions for public health and environmental difficulties or non-compliance with regulations.

Circuit Riders are required to visit Delaware's USDA Office at least quarterly and to comply with the Annual Plan of Work as signed by USDA partners.

Technology Experience

DRWA relies heavily on Microsoft programs. Experience with Outlook, Word, PowerPoint, and Excel is preferred. Reporting via cell phone using certain required applications is mandatory. Timely reports are also required using a cloud-based logging system.

Equipment Use

Circuit Riders must learn about and use field equipment such as ground penetrating radar, leak detection, pumps, meters, hydrants, water quality analysis, etc., and therefore physical ability to lift, maneuver, and operate such equipment is a requirement.

Regulatory Interpretation

This position will lean heavily on knowledge of complex state and federal requirements. Duties will be based on managerial and financial assistance such as regulation interpretation and compliant implementation, rate setting, business-based management decisions, asset management, and cost recovery. Although not a requirement, familiarity and experience with these concepts are a plus.

DRWA offers a competitive salary and compensation package. Submit resumes to heatherw@drwa.org by December 5, 2024.