Water treatment facility operators monitor and regulate the treatment of water at drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities. The duties of an operator will vary depending on size and type of treatment facility. Generally, operators:

- Collect samples and perform lab tests.
- Inspect, repair, and maintain equipment.
- Monitor treatment processes to ensure the plant is operating correctly and make adjustments as necessary.
- Ensure the plant is in compliance with local, state, and national regulations.

For More Information

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Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
750 East King Street • Lancaster, PA 17602
What will I learn?

Students enrolled in Water Management Technology will take courses designed to meet the knowledge, skills, and ability requirements tested on the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection certification exams. This will include courses covering topics such as:

- Water and wastewater treatment.
- Water distribution and wastewater conveyance systems.
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS).
- Equipment maintenance.
- Solids handling.
- Basic Electricity.
- Plant administration.
- Rules and regulations.

Where will I work?

An aging workforce is expected to result in a shortage of certified operators over the next five to 10 years. This shortage is expected to result in a growth rate faster than the average for all occupations.

Graduates can expect to find work in both the private and public sectors.

What skills make a good water/wastewater treatment technician?

To be successful as a water treatment facility operator students should have:

- A mechanical aptitude.
- A scientific aptitude.
- Good problem solving and trouble shooting skills.
- An attention to detail.

Why should I choose an associates degree program?

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection requires that operators of water treatment facilities are certified. Certification is obtained through a combination of exams and operating experience.

- Completion of an approved associates degree program significantly reduces the number of years of operating experience required for certification.

- The associates degree program has been designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for successful completion of Department of Environmental Protection examinations.