

Civil Division: Mohawk Valley Water Authority  
Jurisdictional Class: Competitive  
EEO Category: Professional  
Reviewed: 11/02/06

## **WATERSHED FIELD SPECIALIST**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a professional level position requiring the application of biological and ecological knowledge to surface drinking water sources (i.e., watershed). The employee is responsible for gathering and organizing pertinent watershed data for the Mohawk Valley Water Authority. The incumbent performs laboratory analysis on watershed samples and works with other staff in developing a scientifically sound watershed monitoring program. The employee exercises considerable independent initiative and judgment to help in the development of the monitoring program and its implementation and interpretation of data. Assignments are received verbally or in writing from a higher level staff member. Supervision is exercised over the work of subordinate employees. The incumbent performs related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative Only)

Directs and carries out biological and ecological field research projects;  
Researches sources of water contaminants in the watershed;  
Assists in laboratory work to accomplish field research goals;  
Conducts special studies and tests for improvements of water quality;  
Performs a variety of technical water analysis activities to aid in maintaining State and Federal Water Quality Standards;  
Compiles field research data and aids in applying this data to computer data base and water quality monitoring trends;  
Collects samples in accordance with acceptable methods;  
Maintains safety standards in the laboratory;  
Assists in preparing reports and presenting information on watershed project monitoring.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL**

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Good knowledge of chemical and microbiological testing techniques related to watershed management; good scientific skills concerning the principles and practices associated with watersheds, their biology, geology, and chemistry; good knowledge of the correct measures to improve water portability; good knowledge of basic research methods and techniques use in watersheds; good knowledge of current accepted methods for collection, analysis and interpretation of data for planning purposes; working knowledge of computers; ability to make accurate analysis of water; ability to conduct field studies and research projects in development of a watershed; ability to plan and supervise the work of others; ability to understand complex oral and written directions; ability to exercise personal discretion and sound judgment when dealing with the public.

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**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in one of the biological or environmental sciences, including or supplemented by thirty-six (36) credit hours in biology, **AND** one (1) year of experience in biological or ecological collection and laboratory testing of samples.

Adopted: 03/28/00  
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