# School is a building with four walls and tomorrow inside



### Contact

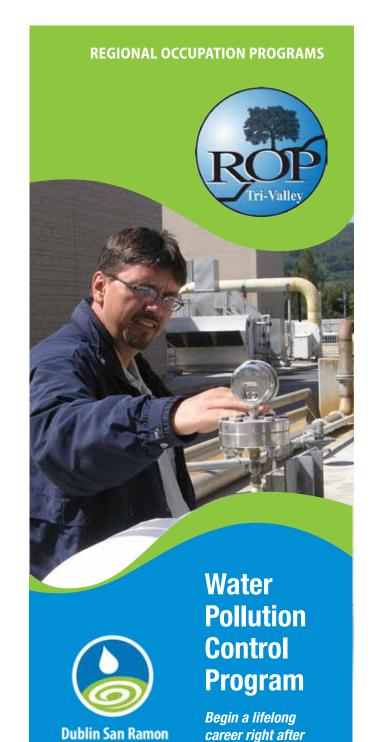
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Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility 7399 Johnson Drive Pleasanton, CA 94588

Water, wastewater, recycled water

For more detailed job descriptions and salaries, visit "Employment" at www.dsrsd.com.



**Services District** 

high school

# Water Pollution Control Program



# **ROP: Your path to a great career**

Darin Winton was making good money as a cabinetmaker but worried that his job lacked health and retirement benefits. By signing up for the Water Pollution Control Program through Tri-Valley Regional Occupational Program (ROP), he steered his career in a successful new direction.

Two months before Darin finished his studies, he landed a job as an operator with South San Francisco's wastewater treatment plant. Later he moved on to the Dublin San Ramon Services District and today is a senior water systems operator.

Since 1973, Tri-Valley ROP has prepared hundreds of people for entry level jobs in water and wastewater treatment. Local high schools sponsor the program and DSRSD provides its Pleasanton wastewater facility as a training site.

Water systems and wastewater treatment plants operate in every community across the U.S., providing essential services that protect public health and the environment. Thousands of operators are scheduled to retire over the next decade, opening up good-paying jobs that can lead to lifetime careers.

The majority of students entering Tri-Valley ROP are working adults interested in a making career change, although the program is open to applicants who are at least 16 years old and a high school junior.

# **Course Description**

ROP students become "operators in training" at a working wastewater treatment plant. They work directly with certified treatment plant personnel to observe operation and maintenance procedures. They learn to tend machinery and equipment, read and interpret charts, meters, and gauges; collect lab samples, and perform tests. Graduates of this program will be familiar with the equipment at a treatment plant and understand the biological, chemical, and physical processes that remove harmful contaminants from wastewater before it is recycled or returned to the environment.

Students attend class on one evening per week from September through June and work as unpaid interns for an additional 12 hours per week. At completion, they have received 150 hours of classroom instruction plus 390 hours of hands-on experience, and are equipped to take the Waste Water State exam administered by the State Water Resources Control Board.

# **Prerequisites**

- Basic algebra is essential.
- ☐ Some chemistry is desirable.
- If still in high school, student must be a junior or senior and at least 16 years of age.

# **How to Apply**

To learn more about the program and to receive an invitation to the next orientation, please visit the Tri-Valley ROP website at www.tvrop.org



# **Career Opportunities in Water and Wastewater Treatment**

# **Laboratory Technician**

Collects samples, performs field and laboratory tests (chemical and biological), and assists with field investigations to determine and mitigate water and wastewater problems.

### Mechanic

Maintains and repairs pumps, treatment systems, and equipment that regulates pressure and flow, including microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and ultraviolet systems.

# **Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator**

Operates, controls, and maintains systems at wastewater treatment and recycled water plants to ensure compliance with environmental and public health standards and optimize efficiency. Regulates influent and effluent flows and assists with basic laboratory testing and sample collection.

# **Water/Wastewater Systems Operator**

Maintains and repairs water, wastewater and recycled water systems, including collection and distribution pipelines, pumps, storage tanks, valves, hydrants, chemical feeding systems, filtration equipment, and meters.

## **Instrumentation Tech**

A specialized position that installs, maintains, troubleshoots, and repairs metering and recording instruments, including control, data logging, and display equipment as well as SCADA and telemetering systems

For more information on jobs at DSRSD, visit www.dsrsd.com

