CLASS TITLE: Environmental Investigator

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, conducts investigations of alleged violations of environmental laws, and inspects facilities for compliance with environmental regulations to enforce state and municipal environmental statutes and ordinances; and performs related duties as required.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: On an assigned shift, conducts covert surveillance to gather evidence and to catch violators in the act of committing illegal activities including, but not limited to, dumping, open burning and improper disposal of medical or toxic waste; informs offenders that activities are in violation of environmental laws and instructs them to cease activities; investigates complaints of environmental pollution by inspecting sites and documenting conditions, collecting samples as evidence and identifying illegal operations; participates in joint investigative and surveillance activities with other enforcement agencies; uses electronic field instrumentation and photographic equipment in the performance of investigative activities; interviews witnesses and complainants to obtain information concerning alleged sources of environmental pollution; interprets City ordinances regarding the protection of the environment and issues citations to violators to enforce environmental ordinances; notifies law enforcement agencies of illegal activities and identifies violators for appropriate action; inspects licensed and permitted facilities including industrial, demolition and waste disposal sites, landfills, transfer stations and motor vehicle repair shops to ensure compliance with environmental regulations; conducts environmental testing on location to measure noise levels and detect sources of possible toxic pollutants; testifies in court on citations issued for violations of environmental ordinances.

RELATED DUTIES: Prepares narrative reports to document sensitive investigation findings and facility inspections; maintains pertinent case records.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Training and Experience. Two years of progressively responsible experience in conducting environmental inspections, or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

License Requirement. A valid State of Illinois driver's license is required.

CLASS TITLE: Environmental Investigator (Cont'd)

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills. Good knowledge of the City's Environmental Protection Ordinance, the Illinois Environmental
Protection Act and federal environmental laws. Good knowledge of detection techniques and practices related to the identification of environmental pollutants and threats to public health and safety. Good knowledge of investigative methods and procedures.

Ability to conduct inspections of abandoned sites, industrial facilities, limited access and multi-level facilities. Ability to conduct covert surveillance activities. Ability to interview witnesses and prepare investigative reports. Ability to use electronic monitoring and photographic equipment. Ability to interpret environmental ordinances and statutes.

Skill in investigation and surveillance, and in persuading witnesses to cooperate with investigations. Good oral and written communication skills.

Working Conditions. May be exposed to chemical fumes, dust, noise and inclement weather. Works rotating shifts, including nights and weekends.

Equipment. Personal safety equipment including respirators and bulletproof vests. Electronic monitoring equipment including noise meters and organic monitors. Photographic equipment.

NOTE: While the list of essential duties is intended to be as inclusive as possible, there may be other duties which are essential to particular positions within the class.

August, 1998