

SANTA FE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

149 Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87506

(505) 424-1850

Fax (505) 424-1839

www.sfswma.org

Recruitment Announcement # 2026-05

POSITION TITLE: HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I
SALARY RANGE: \$23.11 - \$33.52
FLSA/UNION STATUS: Covered/Covered
POSITION STATUS: Classified Full-Time
PERIOD TO APPLY: Open Until Filled
SUPERVISOR: Landfill Superintendent/Landfill Manager
WORK LOCATION: Caja del Rio Landfill

PURPOSE The position is to operate specialized heavy equipment used in disposal and construction activities at the Caja del Rio Landfill productively, efficiently, and safely; to perform routine equipment maintenance; to assist in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and standards of safety; and to perform other landfill work as required. The position requires rotating shifts to include weekend and holidays. The position is under the general supervision of the Landfill Superintendent and Landfill Manager.

JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Heavy Equipment Operator I:

1. Under general direction, proficiently operates any or all of the core landfill equipment including compactors, dozers, earth moving scrapers, water wagons, loaders, and graders for the day-to-day field operation of the Caja del Rio Landfill that accepts 550 tons per day.
2. Knowledge of applicable state and federal rules and regulations pertaining to landfill operation; knowledge of landfill heavy equipment; basic knowledge of site construction; basic knowledge of survey techniques (i.e., grades and elevations); and general knowledge of computer-aided earthmoving systems.
3. Performs pre- and post-trip walk-around inspections of heavy equipment.
4. Places and compacts incoming waste; covers disposal area daily with proper soil cover and/or alternative daily cover (i.e., tarps); and prepares disposal areas for the next day's operation.
5. Ensures compliance with random waste screening at all times.
6. Constructs and prepares new and undeveloped areas for future landfill cells including excavating, backfilling, and grading.
7. Operates a water wagon for dust control on access/haul roads and disposal area.
8. Performs proper shut-down of heavy equipment at the end of shift.
9. Performs routine preventative maintenance of heavy equipment; reports equipment breakdowns to supervisor to ensure prompt attention to maintenance and repair needs.
10. Assists in daily activities as necessary; operates, maintains, and repairs landfill equipment as needed.
11. Understands the value of teamwork and communication as necessary to operate the landfill.
12. Performs job duties safely in a very mobile and confined environment surrounded with trucks and customers.
13. Operates heavy equipment productively for 10+ hours per day, year-round in all types of weather and ground conditions.
14. Demonstrates continuous effort to improve operations, decrease turnaround times, streamline work processes, and work cooperatively and jointly to provide quality customer service.
15. Ability to wear respirator (including clean shaven) and other PPE as required. Must be able to complete, with Agency assistance, respirator fit test and medical surveillance.
16. Maintains appropriate records and reports on landfill operations (i.e., dirt log, dust control log).
17. Provides assistance in landfill inspections; performs corrective measures to ensure compliance with regulations and standards.
18. Assists with litter control and removal.
19. Assists with general grounds and facility maintenance tasks.
20. Works with those of other divisions, departments, and outside agencies as appropriate.

21. Follows all health and safety procedures.
22. Ensures compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, Agency policies and procedures, and standards of quality and safety.
23. Receives and responds to inquiries, concerns, complaints, and requests for assistance regarding areas of responsibility.
24. Performs other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education/Experience: Requires a high school diploma or GED equivalent. Requires one (1) year experience of operating and maintaining heavy equipment. Solid waste experience in landfills is desirable.

Certification/Licensure/Registrations: Requires a New Mexico Class B commercial driver’s license (CDL). Requires an NMED Landfill Operator certification, or obtain within six (6) months of hire. Requires First Aid and CPR certifications within one (1) year of hire.

Special Conditions: Must pass a drug and alcohol screening prior to employment and randomly thereafter. Must wear PPE as required.

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities: Ability to operate compactors, dozers, earth moving scrapers, water wagons, loaders, graders, and Tarpomatic machines.

Ability to use a handheld radio to coordinate tasks and resources.

Ability to operate heavy equipment equipped with GPS grade control system for filling waste in active areas of the landfill and developing future landfill cells including excavation, backfilling, and grading.

Ability to use a handheld GPS equipment to gather coordinates for disposal of special waste.

Ability to communicate with others and assimilate and understand information, in a manner consistent with the essential job functions.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Requires medium-to-heavy work that involves walking, standing, climbing, stooping, bending, lifting, digging, working at heights, pushing or raising objects; also involves exerting between 20 and 50 pounds of force on a recurring basis and 50 to 100 pounds of force on an occasional basis. Also requires considerable skill, adeptness, and speed in the use of fingers, hands, and limbs in tasks involving very close tolerances or limits of accuracy.

The job requires hearing and speaking ability and normal vision, including visual acuity, depth perception, peripheral vision, and color vision.

The job may risk exposure to bright/dim light, dust and pollen, extreme heat and/or cold, wet or humid conditions, extreme noise levels, vibration, fumes and/or noxious odors, traffic, moving machinery, electrical shock, disease/pathogens, and toxic/caustic chemicals. The job may involve confined spaces.

HOW TO APPLY

Submit employment applications to:
 Human Resources Officer
 Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency
 149 Wildlife Way
 Santa Fe, NM 87506-8342

Resumes will not be accepted in place of the SFSWMA employment application. Proof of education, driver’s license, endorsements, professional licenses and/or certifications must be attached to the application.

The Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency is an Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.