

BIOSOLIDS EMS — ELEMENT 8.0

TRAINING



REVISION	EFFECTIVE DATE	APPROVAL SIGNATURE
12	July 22, 2020	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to offer all the necessary awareness and knowledge involved in biosolids management activities in a formalized training program that includes all City and Contractor employees.

SCOPE

This procedure applies to all City and Contractor training performed either in-house or externally by qualified instructors and peers that covers all Critical Control Points.

KEY WORDS

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Training

RESPONSIBILITY

The following individuals are ultimately responsible for setting and implementing all the training needs for the Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility (VCWRF): Assistant Director (Plant Operations), Superintendent (Plant Operations-Wastewater), Assistant Superintendent (Plant Operations-Wastewater), Assistant Superintendent (Plant Operations-Maintenance), Biosolids Environmental Management System (EMS) Manager (Plant Operations), Village Creek Training Specialists (Plant Operations), and Biosolids Manager (Contractor). However, the entire EMS Team and all wastewater staff are encouraged to give their input to the continued improvement of the training program.

PROCEDURE

The City of Fort Worth strives to hire the most qualified people for each position within the biosolids value chain. The educational and experience requirements are described in each job description as discussed in Element 7.0 and on the City's intranet. Once the new employees begin their jobs they are continually trained to perform their tasks as efficiently as possible, to keep up with the latest advances in the processes, to be aware of the requirements and tasks of other positions, to perform their job as safely as possible, and to be aware of the most recent regulatory requirements. For some employees, such as operators, the State of Texas and the City require certain levels of training. Employees receive training as on the job training, formal classroom training, professional conferences, regular meetings with management and supervisors, and in-house presentations. The City's Human Resources Department and the Wastewater Treatment Administrative Division both document and track each employee's training history.

State Mandated Training:

Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Title 30 Part 1 Chapter 30 Occupational Licenses and Registrations, Subchapter J Wastewater Operator and Operations Companies requires that "persons that operate, assist in the operation, or contract to operate domestic wastewater treatment facilities, or supervise wastewater collection activities other than an operator-in-training, must be licensed or registered..." These requirements are found at the TAC website located here: [https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=30&pt=1&ch=30](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=4&ti=30&pt=1&ch=30). The operators must achieve the levels of training, pass the required examinations and complete the required continuing education to maintain their licenses. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality governs this policy and documents and tracks each operator's performance. The City employs state certified instructors who teach many of the required classes at VCWRF.

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On the Job Training

Plant Operations and each supervisor provide the required training to ensure each employee has the necessary knowledge and skills to perform his or her job safely and efficiently. This training includes conveying standard operating procedures and policies, the location of necessary operational and safety equipment, EMS procedures, etc.

Classroom Training

The City employs certified instructors that regularly teach safety, process, and other courses at VCWRF. The Plant Operations division provides extensive safety training to its employees each month. Also, the City will bring in outside instructors to teach courses. Employees are also encouraged to attend regular and short courses at colleges and universities. These courses meet the required State and Federal requirements including those specified by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Professional Conferences

The City encourages its employees to attend workshops and conferences held by organizations, such as the American Water Works Association, the Water and Environment Federation, the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP), and other treatment facilities.

In-house Presentations

The City uses in-house presentations to convey new policy and procedures to its employees. The employees are also introduced to other programs, such as the EMS, at these presentations.

City Contractors

The City requires each of its contractors to “employ only such superintendents, foremen, and workmen who are careful, competent, and fully qualified to perform the duties or tasks assigned to them ...” through the General Conditions Section C7-7.5 of its standard contract documents. The contractor is responsible for providing the proper training for each of his or her employees working on the project. The Contractor shall submit a listing of employee training to the City annually.

This training includes that required by federal, state, and local regulations as well as any special training required by the project. The City allows the Contractor’s employees to attend the certified wastewater training courses presented at VCWRF and keeps the contractor informed of upcoming workshops, short courses, etc. The contractor also provides its employees with the necessary safety training, Department of Transportation training, and any other training required. The City and Contractor discuss and coordinate this training at regular project progress meetings.

EMS Training

The Biosolids EMS Manager is responsible for overseeing EMS training. The Biosolids EMS Manager, and selected EMS team members, attend NBP workshops, track EMS changes through the NBP website <https://wef.org/resources/topics/browse-topics-a-n/biosolids/> and personal contact, and self-study to obtain the required information to train the Village Creek Water Reclamation Facility staff and biosolids contractors.

New Employee Training

New or reassigned employees are introduced to the Biosolids EMS through plant orientation. An EMS introduction and training presentation is presented to these employees at this time.

VCWRF Safety Meetings/ Biosolids Newsletter

Each quarter, EMS training and Biosolids Program updates will be provided to employees in one of two ways: (1) a presentation during the monthly VCWRF Safety Meetings or, (2) a Biosolids Newsletter sent via e-mail to the Staff of VCWRF and the Pretreatment Division.. The presentations and newsletters will contain relevant information such

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as current biosolids production, biosolids projects, upcoming EMS audits or a review of specific EMS elements. Sign in sheets and a copy of the presented EMS training material will be filed in the EMS Employee Awareness Binder.

Plant Staff Meetings

The Biosolids EMS is an agenda item on the regular Plant staff meetings. The Biosolids EMS Manager discusses EMS procedures and issues with Water Department Staff at regular meetings and obtains feedback and ideas.

Project Progress Meetings

The topic of Biosolids EMS is an agenda item on the regular Project Progress Meetings between the City and Contractor. This forum allows for training, discussion and feedback on EMS procedures, EMS principles, and issues with the City's contractors at the regular project progress meetings.

REFERENCES

- BMP Guidance Manual (NBP, June 2011)
- Code of Good Practice (NBP, June 2011)
- Manual of Good Practice for Biosolids (NBP, June 2011)

EMS Cross References:

- Element 6.0 Public Participation
- Element 7.0 Roles and Responsibilities
- Element 9.0 Communication and Public Outreach

REVISION HISTORY

Revision #	Date	Revision Description
12	07/22/2020	Update to VCWRF Safety Meetings and Biosolids Newsletter sections
11	09/21/2018	Update to Responsibility, State Mandated Training, and EMS Training sections
10	09/27/2017	Updated procedure, updated references
09	08/01/2016	Merged element to new EMS format, changes to procedure
08	10/06/2014	Updated links
07	02/17/2014	Updated EMS Training section, updated references.
06	08/05/2013	Updated references
05	11/16/2010	Update responsibilities and references
04	05/15/2008	Audit (YR2) 2007
03	06/27/2007	Audit (YR1) 2006
02	11/29/2004	2004 Issue
01	10/01/2004	Approval Draft
SR	01/30/2004	Issued for Status Review