SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

GEOLOGIST III

Spec No. 3398

BASIC FUNCTION

To perform and lead senior level, geotechnical, geological, hydrogeological, environmental, and materials engineering studies using applicable standard geologic and engineering principles and methods. Assists all departments within Snohomish County in providing technical support or coordinating the work of consultants or engineering staff in the areas of environmental, geotechnical, geological, hydrogeological and materials engineering.

STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL JOB DUTIES

1. Conducts, reviews, or directs the preparation of geotechnical and geological studies and prepares technical reports for various types of projects. Performs environmental studies to determine potential impacts of toxic and hazardous materials on county property or property being considered for purchase by the county.

2. Exercises independent geologic and engineering judgment to develop specific recommendations for cost effective solutions; leads and facilitates problem solving efforts; works with and coordinates the efforts of multidisciplinary teams to implement geotechnical solutions in complex public works projects.

3. Acts as a technical consultant for all departments within Snohomish County in working with environmental, geotechnical, geological, and hydrogeological issues.

4. Reviews environmental, geotechnical, and hydrogeological consultant reports for Snohomish County projects to determine if scope has been met and to ensure that the recommendations are consistent with site investigation findings, design calculations; project requirements; or county, state or federal regulations.

5. Plans and oversees field drilling, hand augering, and backhoe operations.

6. Acts as a coordinator between the county and WSDOE on Environmental Site Assessment issues.

7. Develops scope of work and cost estimates for geotechnical, geological, hydrogeological and environmental studies for Public Works division and other departments as resources and authority allow.

8. Initiates laboratory testing programs, correlates and reduces data, performs calculations for the determination of engineering characteristics of materials and their impacts upon structures, performs calculations for slope stability, permeability, pavement design and retaining wall design; develops recommendations for project design and construction.
SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

GEOLOGIST III


10. Assists with the preparation of contract specifications for environmental, geotechnical and geological work, assists with the preliminary review of construction plans to determine if contract specifications are complete and in agreement with previously prepared recommendations and calculations.

11. Analyzes new construction and design technologies to recommend improved methods and practices.

12. Coordinates and reviews the work of other engineering and technical staff as it relates to assigned project; provides training and mentoring in related work as required.

13. Performs related duties as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

A Bachelor’s degree in Geology, Engineering Geology, hydrogeology, or related geoscience field and four (4) years of experience in engineering geology or geotechnical engineering.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A valid Washington State Driver's License is required for employment.

A Washington State Geologist License with an Engineering Geologist or Hydrogeologist endorsement is required.

Certification of Completion of a 40-hour OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 certified Health and Safety program within six (6) months may be required.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- principles, practices, and techniques of geology related to geological, geotechnical and environmental engineering. principals, practices and techniques of hydrogeology and groundwater modeling
- federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations relating to environmental, geotechnical and geological engineering, and hydrogeology
- methods and techniques used in conducting engineering and hydrogeological studies and site assessments
SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

GEOLOGIST III

- principles and practices of report writing, contract negotiation and contract administration
- literature, trends and developments in the areas of environmental, geotechnical and geological engineering, and hydrogeology
- operations of environmental, geotechnical, hydrogeological, and material testing equipment
- engineering plans, specifications and drafting procedures
- characteristics and properties of soils found in the Snohomish County area and groundwater and aquifer characteristics and regulations in Snohomish County

Ability to:

- interpret and assess field data used for the design, construction and maintenance of road and bridge, trail, and other public works projects
- prepare engineering plans, specifications and estimates
- direct and evaluate the inspection and evaluation of the condition of soil and civil structures
- allocate and make effective use of available resources
- assess the relative advantages and disadvantages of alternative course of action
- gather, analyze, and evaluate a variety of data including statistical data
- exercise independent geologic and engineering judgment to develop reasoned and specific recommendations for cost effective solutions
- lead and facilitate problem solving efforts
- work with and coordinate the efforts of multidisciplinary teams to implement geotechnical solutions in complex public works projects
- read, interpret and apply federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations governing environmental geotechnical, and hydrogeological practices in Washington State
- analyze and evaluate operations and take effective action to correct deficiencies and resolve problems
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with elected officials, department heads, associates, subordinates, representatives of other agencies and with the general public
- communicate effectively, both orally and in writing
- prepare a variety of correspondence, reports, and other written materials and documents
- plan, schedule and coordinate work assignments of staff and subordinates
- use and care for instruments and equipment employed in environmental and geotechnical practices

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENT
SNOHOMISH COUNTY JOB DESCRIPTION

GEOLOGIST III

Field work requires walking in difficult and uneven terrain, manual augering for field explorations, and assisting with drilling operations. May be required to lift objects weighing fifty (50) pounds or more.

SUPERVISION

Assignments are generally broad in scope and require the use of experience, initiative, considerable independent judgment and discretion in developing and achieving work unit goals and objectives. Assistance from professional supervisors is available when especially difficult problems are encountered. Work is periodically evaluated by a professional supervisor.

WORKING CONDITIONS

The work is performed in both the office environment and field sites throughout the county.

Snohomish County is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer. Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are provided upon request. 

EEO policy and ADA notice

Class Established: April 2015
Revised: February 2022
EEO Category: 2 – Professionals
Pay Grade: 244 - Classified Pay Plan
Workers Comp: 1501 Hazardous