

Sanitation Driver / Solid Waste Operator

North Bergen Municipal Utilities Authority (NBMUA)

Job Summary

Under general supervision, the Sanitation Driver operates a heavy-duty refuse collection vehicle (sanitation truck) to collect and transport solid waste and/or recycling materials. This role is responsible for the safe and efficient operation, cleaning, servicing, and minor maintenance of the assigned vehicle. The Driver occasionally performs manual labor related to refuse collection and is responsible for accurate record-keeping.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- **Operation & Transport:** Drives a large sanitation truck on an assigned route, collecting refuse and transporting it to the designated landfill or disposal area.
 - **Vehicle Maintenance:** Performs routine inspections, cleaning, lubrication, and servicing of the sanitation truck, including checking pressure gauges for hydraulic systems and monitoring tire and battery condition.
 - **Minor Repairs:** Executes minor emergency and routine mechanical repairs to the vehicle.
 - **Safety & Compliance:** Operates the vehicle and all auxiliary equipment (e.g., hydraulic lifting devices, pusher plates) in a skilled, safe, and efficient manner, adhering to all traffic laws and NBMUA safety protocols.
 - **Loading Assistance:** May be required to assist the crew with manual and unskilled laboring work, including physically loading solid waste and recycling materials into the truck.
 - **Record Keeping:** Maintains accurate records, logs, and information using both electronic and/or manual recording systems as required by the Authority.
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Minimum Requirements

Experience

- One (1) year of documented experience driving a commercial truck that features **tandem/dual rear axles** and a **Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) of at least 26,000 pounds**.
- Experience must include the operation of auxiliary equipment such as a snow plow, salt spreader, power take-off (PTO), winch, lift body, or hydraulic lifting device.

License

- Possession of a **valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL)** and all applicable endorsements for the class and type of vehicle being operated. *Note: Compliance with licensing requirements is the responsibility of the appointing authority.*
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Required Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Technical Knowledge

- **Vehicle Systems:** Comprehensive knowledge of the proper care, maintenance, and safe operation of heavy-duty sanitation trucks, including air brakes, trolley brake control, and limiter valves.
- **Transmission:** Proficiency in the proper method of double-clutching, shifting a five-speed transmission with an auxiliary transmission, and understanding the operation of both synchromesh and constant-mesh transmissions.
- **Hydraulics:** Expert knowledge of the hydraulic system that operates the tailgate and pusher plate. Ability to recognize when the system is overloaded or low on oil, and to add the proper amount of fluid to prevent damage or injury.

Core Abilities

- Ability to quickly **analyze operational problems** involving the truck.
- Ability to **understand, remember, and execute** complex oral and written directions.
- Ability to **keep necessary records** and utilize required electronic/manual information systems.
- Ability to **communicate effectively** (read, write, speak, understand) in English sufficiently to perform the duties of this position. *American Sign Language or Braille may be considered*