

Water management



What is water management?

Water is one of our most precious resources, especially in Colorado. You can play a part in problem-solving for our current and future water needs!

- Apply physical, chemical and biological sciences combined with math, technology, engineering, economics and law.
- Make important decisions about water quality and quantity.

Day in the life

Analyze data and build reports

Investigate water quality problems

Research ecosystems

Develop plans for controlling water resources

Career path

Entry level



Internships

Technician



Aquatic Biologist, Hydrology Technician, Groundwater Remediation Technician

Professional



Hydrologist, Local or State Water Planner, Stormwater Technician

Management



Plant Operator, Water Treatment Operator

How can I get experience?

General exposure/experience: Camp Rocky

Volunteer opportunities: River Watch of Colorado, Volunteer.gov

Youth employment: Groundwork Denver, SPREE River Ranger Summer Program, Student Conservation Association

Professional societies: American Water Resources Association, National Groundwater Association, River Management Society

Salary/pay range

The average salary for a Water Treatment Specialist in Colorado is:

\$94,258

(From Indeed)

Examples of careers

- Aquatic Biologist
- Hydrologist
- Watershed Planner
- Groundwater Specialist
- Water Treatment Operator

Skills

GIS analysis

Water resource management

Compliance monitoring and legal proceedings



Career spotlight: Water treatment technician

What they do

Before you take a sip of water from the faucet, a water treatment technician or operator has ensured that it is safe for you to drink. Fresh water is pumped from wells, rivers, streams or reservoirs to water treatment plants, where it is treated and distributed to customers.

A water treatment technician could work for a city government at a water treatment facility. On a typical day, a water treatment technician may record meter and gauge readings, add chemicals to disinfect and deodorize water and other liquids, clean and maintain equipment and work areas, and collect and test water samples.

A person in this job should like physical activities. You may be expected to do heavy lifting, stooping, climbing and walking. Everyone in the plant is exposed to unpleasant odors, and keep in mind, it can be a dirty job!

Skills and education check

Math, science and mechanical skills are essential for being a water treatment technician. One must have good analytical and detail-oriented skills to conduct tests and analyze results.

Water treatment technicians typically need a high school diploma and a license to work. They also typically undergo on-the-job training. As competition for jobs continues to increase, completion of an associate's degree also increases the chances of employment and a higher starting salary. You'll also need several state licenses and certifications.



Want to learn more?

Visit nrcareers.org for the inside scoop on careers in natural resources!