



SUMMER 2024 – PRETREATMENT

The following questions are designed for individuals/trainees pursuing certification as they prepare to take the ABC wastewater operator test. It is also designed for existing operators to test their knowledge. Each issue of *Clear Waters* will have more questions from a different process of wastewater treatment. Good luck!

- 1) Industrial wastewater discharge permits grant permission to an industrial user to discharge wastewater to the
 - A) Environment
 - B) Pre-treatment facility
 - C) Wastewater collection system
 - D) Wastewater treatment plant
- 2) What is the most forceful compliance procedure available to a POTW?
 - A) Issuing a fine
 - B) Notifying the public
 - C) Issuing a notice of violation
 - D) Revoking permission to discharge to a sewer
- 3) What are the two types of discharges recognized by the EPA to control the flow of pollutants into water?
 - A) Municipal and industrial
 - B) Raw and treated
 - C) Direct and indirect
 - D) Sanitary and storm
- 4) What is the purpose of an unannounced industrial inspection?
 - A) To meet with the POTW's normal staff
 - B) To check on effluent quality
 - C) To test the response of the industry
 - D) To review paperwork
- 5) What is the best source of information regarding chemical products and their hazardous nature?
 - A) PESH
 - B) OSHA
 - C) SDS
 - D) DEC
- 6) What is the most common toxic gas that is encountered during sampling work?
 - A) Carbon monoxide
 - B) Hydrogen cyanide
 - C) Methane
 - D) Hydrogen sulfide
- 7) What are composite samples collected to measure?
 - A) Average amount of pollutants
 - B) Pollutants of specific concern
 - C) Maximum concentration of pollutants
 - D) Pollutants at a specific time
- 8) What should be done before entering an industrial facility for a pretreatment inspection?
 - A) Notify the receptionist of your intent to inspect
 - B) Collect wastewater samples
 - C) Make an appointment with the facility
 - D) Park outside the facility
- 9) What is the main function of a pretreatment facility inspector during an emergency?
 - A) Assist the command center with communications to and from the treatment plant
 - B) Prepare press releases
 - C) Direct traffic around the emergency site
 - D) Evacuate neighborhoods around the emergency site
- 10) How should treatment plant personnel respond to a spill arriving at the plant?
 - A) Monitor the flow of the spill through the plant
 - B) Prepare a written spill control plan
 - C) Follow a written spill control plan
 - D) Route the spill through the plant

Answers:

- 1) C: Wastewater collection system
- 2) D: Revoking permission to discharge to a sewer
- 3) C: Direct and indirect
- 4) B: To check on effluent quality
- 5) C: SDS
- 6) D: Hydrogen sulfide
- 7) A: Average amount of pollutants
- 8) B: Collect wastewater samples
- 9) A: Assist the command center with communications to and from the treatment plant
- 10) C: Follow a written spill control plan