

Environmental Compliance Officer

TIFFANY MINDER

CITY OF FLINT WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY

I generally spend ½ my day at the Water Pollution Control Facility do a variety of desk and lab related activities such as writing reports, running lab tests, answering emails, attending meetings, calibrating equipment, analyzing data, issuing permits, writing up violation notices, and working with GIS mapping utilities. The other ½ of my day is generally spent out in the field and is never typical. I do a huge variety of activities in the field and what I do on any given day just depends on what's happening and where I can assist. These activities can include but are definitely not limited to:

- Performing stormwater and industrial user inspections
- Responding to spills which includes sample collection, source tracking and enforcement of sewer ordinances
- TV-ing sewer lines, access wells and outfalls
- Performing dye tracing to determine sewer line connections and pathways.
- Flying a drone to get eyes on areas of our watershed that are not accessible by foot
- Collecting samples and running field analysis on them
- Collecting data from and maintaining in-line field meters
- Performing public outreach by speaking at schools, hosting tours, participating in career fairs, speaking to local community groups and leading youth volunteer groups in clean water activities
- Storm drain stenciling
- Water Quality monitoring of local surface waters



What are the most challenging aspects of this career?

A lot of regulatory compliance that needs to be interpreted and understood which can sometimes be confusing or even contradictory.

I get to be outside and play in the water, and I get paid to do it. I love my job and it's a huge bonus that I know I am making a positive impact on clean water every single day.



What level of education is typically required?

Bachelor's Degree with a minimum of 40 credit hours in chemistry



Are there specific fields of study that are most relevant?

Chemistry, Biology, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Sciences



What are the usual work hours and conditions?

50/50 in the office and out on the field. My set schedule is Monday – Friday 7:30 – 3:30, however I do get called out on spill response which can happen at any time, day or night.

