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# Lake County Vector Control District

## POLICY HANDBOOK

**POLICY TITLE:** Job Description – Vector Control Technician I  
**POLICY NUMBER:** 2320

### 2320.1 General Job Description

The Vector Control Technician I is responsible for controlling mosquitoes and other vectors within his/her assigned work area. This is a heavy work position that requires exerting up to 100 pounds of force occasionally and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects. The VCT must be physically capable of working long hours in a variety of environmental conditions while wearing required equipment. The VCT must be able to communicate effectively with members of the public to gain access to known or suspected sources of mosquitoes and other vectors, present himself/herself professionally, and work cooperatively with coworkers, members of the public, and employees of other agencies.

This position requires working outside in a variety of weather conditions ranging from below freezing to above 100°F with exposure to sun, heat, wind, and rain. The VCT I regularly works in and around water. The VCT may encounter unfriendly, uncooperative, or hostile people and animals.

This job description reflects management's assignment of essential functions. Nothing in this job description restricts the District Manager's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities at any time.

Under the direction of the Vector Control Technician III and the District Manager, and with a minimum of supervision, the Vector Control Technician I:

- a) Applies principles of integrated vector management (IVM) to reduce mosquito and other vector populations in assigned zone;
- b) Inspects known, suspected, and potential sources for all life stages of mosquitoes and other vectors;
- c) Mixes, loads, and applies public health pesticides in accordance with label directions;
- d) Responds to service requests promptly and professionally;
- e) Maintains records of sources, inspections, pesticide use, service requests, and other actions as required;
- f) Safely operates assigned vehicle(s) and equipment;
- g) Maintains assigned vehicle(s) and equipment in good working order;
- h) Recognizes mosquitoes and other vectors;
- i) Works with residents, property owners, and others to identify long-term solutions for mosquito and vector control;
- j) Communicates effectively to educate members of the public about mosquitoes and other vectors, control products, and other strategies for controlling mosquitoes and other vectors;
- k) Collects adult mosquitoes for disease testing;
- l) Assists with District projects (maintenance of facilities, fabrication, equipment repair and maintenance, source reduction work, and other projects as assigned);
- m) Works in public outreach booths;

n) Performs other duties as assigned.

## **2320.2 Prerequisite Qualifications**

**2320.2.1** Must possess a high school diploma or GED.

**2320.2.2** Valid California driver license and be insurable with the District's coverage provider. Must maintain valid California driver license and remain insurable with the District's coverage provider throughout employment with District.

**2320.2.3** Must be able to swim.

**2320.2.4** Basic knowledge of a Microsoft Windows®-based PC system, including ability to operate, or within a reasonable time learn to operate, internet browser (Mozilla Firefox), email (Mediacom), Google Earth, word processing (Microsoft Word) and spreadsheet (Microsoft Excel) programs, and other software used by the District for recording mosquito sources, service requests, applications, and other job-related data.

**2320.2.5** Must possess certification as a Public Health Vector Control Certified Technician in Categories A (Pesticide Use and Safety) and B (Mosquito Biology and Control) or earn certification within 12 months of beginning employment; must earn certification in Categories C (Terrestrial Invertebrate Vector Control) and D (Vertebrate Vector Control) within 24 months of beginning employment. Certifications in Categories A, B, C, and D must be maintained throughout employment.

## **2320.3 Generally Applicable Physical Requirements**

Must be sighted in both eyes with the ability to demonstrate depth perception; have a minimum of single-ear aided hearing; be without physical limitations that would prevent performing customary and usual activities associated with field operational vector surveillance and control work activities.

A physical examination by a medical doctor, including drug testing, at District expense, may be required at any time to determine the ability of the person to perform safely and successfully the tasks of a Vector Control Technician I. The judgment of the physician that the person could not perform the normal tasks associated with this job classification shall be sufficient grounds for a change in classification, if a less demanding position is available, or termination of employment.

Employees may be required to submit to a physical examination or laboratory procedures required under the medical supervision program of the District (examples include a medical evaluation before using a respirator, and certain pesticides may require periodic blood tests).

**2320.4 Basic Work Hours:** 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Hours are adjusted to meet the needs of the District. Employee is required to work early mornings or late nights to apply pesticides or travel to training and may be required to work in excess of 8 hours/day or 40 hrs/week.

**2320.5 Compensation Range:** Range 16.5

**2320.6 Essential Job Duties:**

**2320.6.1** Task: Inspects known and suspected sources for mosquito and other vector populations. Accessing sources includes talking with property owners/managers to gain access; walking long distances over uneven, muddy, densely vegetated, and/or flooded surfaces, sometimes wearing hip or chest waders; climbing over fences, ladders, or obstacles; operating an ATV, amphibious tracked vehicle, small watercraft, or truck.

Physical Demand: Standing; walking; swimming; lifting up to 25 lbs; carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; driving.

**2320.6.2** Task: Mixes, loads, and applies pesticides by truck- or other vehicle mounted sprayer, hand-held sprayer, hand can, backpack, and by hand. Accessing sources includes talking with property owners/managers to gain access; walking long distances over uneven, muddy, densely vegetated, and/or flooded surfaces, sometimes wearing hip or chest waders; climbing over fences, ladders, or obstacles; operating an ATV, amphibious tracked vehicle, small watercraft, or truck. Examples of typical work include using a backpack sprayer (up to 75 lbs.) continuously for an hour or more while wearing hip or chest waders and traversing uneven, muddy, and/or flooded terrain; using a hand can or handheld sprayer (up to 30 lbs.) that is carried long distances over uneven, muddy, and flooded terrain while wearing hip or chest waders; carrying the associated fuel and chemical refilling containers such as 5-gallon jerry cans (up to 45 lbs.) or bags of pesticides (up to 40 lbs.) over long distances over uneven, muddy, and flooded terrain while wearing hip or chest waders; and driving a truck equipped with a ULV spray rig for several hours over paved and unpaved roads.

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking long distances over uneven surfaces; swimming; lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling (regularly up to 25 lbs., frequently up to 50 lbs., and infrequently up to 75 lbs.); climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; visual accommodation; peripheral vision; driving. Note that the above work is performed while wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and often requires wearing hip or chest waders. .

**2320.6.3** Task: Uses and maintains pesticide application equipment. This includes calibrating equipment to ensure appropriate application rates; identifying and repairing leaks; replacing hoses, clamps, filters, spray heads, and other parts; making minor repairs in the field; preventing and cleaning up spills; and other related work. Note that this work typically requires use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting, carrying, pushing, and pulling (regularly up to 25 lbs., frequently up to 50 lbs., and infrequently up to 75 lbs.); climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; smelling; near vision; depth perception; visual accommodation.

**2320.6.4** Task: Assists with moving, lifting, loading and unloading, passing, receiving, and stacking 40-lb containers to and from pallets, pickup trucks, trailers, and aircraft.

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting up to 40 lbs. above the head; carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; depth perception; driving. The above labors are performed from ground level to above shoulder height, and may include actions at arm's length and above the head.

- 2320.6.5** Task: Uses necessary personal protective equipment (PPE), including respirators, gloves, eye protection, hearing protection, required clothing and footwear, and other PPE as required.  
Physical demand: Use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; tasting/smelling (to test respirator); near vision. Note that use of PPE is required while performing many essential job duties.
- 2320.6.6** Task: Collects adult mosquitoes and other vectors using a variety of traps, aspirators, nets, and other methods.  
Physical Demand: Standing; walking; lifting up to 25 lbs.; carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; near vision; far vision; depth perception.
- 2320.6.7** Task: Completes work records (pesticide applications, service requests, source inspections, time sheets, and other records as required) on paper forms or other designated record system.  
Physical Demand: Sitting; lifting up to 5 lbs.; use of hands and fingers to write, type, or enter data; near vision.
- 2320.6.8** Task: Drives highway vehicles on- and off-road, occasionally with a trailer.  
Physical Demand: Sitting; use of hands and fingers to handle, manipulate, or feel instruments and controls; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; peripheral vision; driving. Note that most essential job functions require driving to reach the work site.
- 2320.6.9** Task: Operates ATV, amphibious tracked vehicle, and boats, sometimes over rough, bumpy, and jarring terrain.  
Physical Demand: Sitting for extended periods of time; climbing; balancing; kneeling; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; peripheral vision; driving. Note that other essential job functions may require use of ATV, amphibious tracked vehicles, or boats to reach the work site.
- 2320.6.10** Task: Communicates effectively with public, coworkers, and others as required. Examples include answering questions about basic mosquito and vector biology, vector-borne diseases, and pesticides; scheduling service requests; working with property owners/managers to reduce or eliminate mosquito and other vector sources; explaining the District's services; and discussing sources and treatment options.  
Physical Demand: Use of hands and fingers to write, type, and operate phone; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision.
- 2320.6.11** Task: Assists in District projects such as maintenance of facilities and grounds, fabrication, equipment maintenance, repairs to facilities, source reduction work, and other projects as assigned. Examples include installation of ULV sprayer onto trucks; repairing or replacing wood decking, steps, and railings; building chicken coops; pouring concrete; using shovels, rakes, saws, loppers, and other hand tools for grounds maintenance; using lawnmowers, string trimmers, chainsaws, and other power tools for grounds maintenance; using hammers, screwdrivers, saws, pliers, wrenches, soldering iron, and other hand tools; using drill press, table saw, circular saw, nail gun, and other power tools; painting; and other projects.  
Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting (regularly up to 25 lbs., frequently up to 50 lbs., and infrequently up to 75 lbs.); carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping;

kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; visual accommodation.

**2320.6.12** Task: Participates in training sessions. Examples include pesticide safety training, continuing education programs, regulations, and respirator training.

Physical Demand: Sitting for extended periods of time in vehicles or chairs; use of hands and fingers to write or type; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision, visual accommodation.

**2320.6.13** Task: Maintains clean and orderly vehicle, spray equipment, pesticide storage area, garage, workspace, and yard. Examples include washing vehicles and spray equipment, cleaning up spills, organizing work and storage spaces, sweeping, cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming, and other duties.

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting, carrying, pushing, and pulling (regularly up to 25 lbs., frequently up to 50 lbs., and infrequently up to 75 lbs.); climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; peripheral vision.

**2320.6.14** Task: Assists with mosquito fish program. Examples include seining and trapping fish, cleaning tanks, testing water, feeding fish, recognizing sick fish, stocking fish in appropriate habitats, identifying appropriate habitats for mosquito fish, and distributing mosquito fish to residents.

Physical Demand: Standing; walking; swimming; lifting up to 40 lbs.; carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; crawling; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision. Note that the above work may require wearing hip or chest waders.

## **2320.7 Marginal Job Duties:**

**2320.7.1** Task: Use of computer, calculator, copier, scanner, printers, FAX, postage meter, and other related office machines and equipment.

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting up to 25 lbs. (infrequently up to 50 lbs.); carrying; stooping; kneeling; reaching; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; near vision.

**2320.7.2** Task: Answering telephone, taking service requests over the phone and in-person, catching mosquito fish and transferring to carrying containers for residents, answering inquiries from the public.

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting up to 5 lbs.; carrying; pushing; pulling; kneeling; crawling; reaching; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision.

**2320.7.3** Task: Manipulates, sorts, and identifies small organisms using a magnifier, dissecting scope, and stereo microscope.

Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting up to 5 lbs.; carrying; pushing; pulling; stooping; reaching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; visual accommodation; repeated actions.

**2320.7.4** Task: Transports, sets up, and works in District Booth at fairs and other outreach events.  
Physical Demand: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting up to 40 lbs.; carrying; pushing; pulling; kneeling; crawling; reaching; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; driving.

**2320.7.5** Task: Assists with aquatic sampling. Examples include setting an Eckman dredge (grasping strength of approx. 15 lbs), deploying and retrieving Eckman dredges, vertical tow nets, Secchi disk and related sampling devices weighing up to 35 lbs with a pull weight that may exceed 50 lbs; lifting and rinsing substrate samples in sieves (up to 25 lbs.) while leaning over the side of the boat and condensing into sample jars; transporting equipment and samples between boat and laboratory; wading in chest-deep water while using a seine to sample fish population; using trailer to transport boat; and other related duties.

Physical Demand: Operating watercraft; sitting; standing; walking; lifting up to 25 lbs; carrying; pushing; pulling; climbing; balancing; stooping; kneeling; crouching; twisting; use of hands and fingers to write, handle, manipulate, or feel objects, instruments, tools, and controls; talking; hearing; near vision; far vision; depth perception; visual accommodation; peripheral vision; driving.

### **2320.8 Environmental Demands:**

**2320.8.1** Outside: Regularly works in a variety of weather conditions ranging from below freezing to above 100°F. Exposure to weather conditions including sun, heat, wind, rain. Exposure to allergens, including poison oak and pollen. Exposure to domestic and wild animals. Exposure to insect and arthropod bites and stings. Exposure to vector-borne diseases.

**2320.8.2** Inside: Occasionally required to work indoors in temperature-controlled environment.

**2320.8.3** Fumes/Gases: Exposure to pesticides, solvents, fuel, lab chemicals, dust, fumes from internal combustion motors, and fumes from welding.

**2320.8.4** Noise/Vibration: Exposure to noise and vibrations from tools, equipment, and vehicles.

### **2320.9 Mental Requirements:**

**2320.9.1** Reading: Reads road maps, instructions, service requests, technical reports, magazine and journal articles, letters, reports, memos and messages, technical manuals, written memos and directives, plans, specifications and details, work orders, pesticide labels, material safety data sheets (MSDS), safety manuals, and other documents related to the operation, repair, and maintenance of District equipment.

**2320.9.2** Writing: Completes service requests forms; writes messages, short communications to property owners/residents; records materials used, equipment used, hours worked and descriptions of work done. Writing may include handwriting, typing, or using another data entry device.

**2320.9.3** Math: Ability to perform basic math and algebra calculations. Ability to calculate dilutions, application rate, area, convert measurements of area, volume, mass.

**2320.9.4** Attention to Detail: High level concentration and attention to detail for extended periods of time to insure safe, efficient, and productive operations that comply with local, state, and federal requirements.

**2320.9.5** Repetition: Routine daily work practices, including driving, inspecting for mosquitoes and other vectors, applying pesticides, recording pesticide application information and other work records.

**2320.9.6** Judgment: Ability to work independently, frequently unsupervised; good judgment required; ability to plan route to accomplish daily tasks efficiently; ability to schedule daily activities to complete work in an efficient manner; prioritize work and make decisions regarding correct applications of pesticides when warranted; ability to define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions; ability to work with others to achieve desired goals; ability to work with others and formulate appropriate instructions to achieve desired goals.

**2320.9.7** Social Skills: Ability to relate cooperatively with members of the public, District personnel, staff of local, state and federal agencies, on a regular basis in person and by telephone. Ability to deal with difficult people in a professional manner.

**2320.9.8** Communication Skills: Ability to quickly organize and communicate thoughts orally and in writing. Ability to understand communications from others. Ability to concisely describe a problem, and discuss potential solutions.