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# Preston Public Utilities seeks the Position of an WATER/SEWER/STREET MAINTENANCE WORKER

**General Duties:** Primary responsibilities consist of but are not limited to daily operation and maintenance of the municipal wells, water storage tanks, distribution system, sewer collection system, city streets, storm sewers, and facilities. Serves on-call and responds to public works emergencies to include work on holidays, weekends, and evenings.

**Salary Range:** \$25.42 to \$34.91; excellent benefits package offering health insurance coverage by Medica and UNUM Life Insurance and Delta Dental Insurance. The City of Preston also provides 13 paid holidays.

**Minimum Qualifications:** Minimum requirements are class D water license or the ability to obtain within 1 year, a valid MN Class B commercial driver's license or the ability to obtain within 1 year, a satisfactory driving record, ability to perform work requiring considerable physical effort and must comply with the Utilities on-call response time. Distribution electrical experience is preferred but not required.

## POSITION PACKET

View the full description at  
[prestonmn.gov](http://prestonmn.gov)

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To be considered for this position, an applicant's file must be completed and received by January 30, 2026, and must contain:

1. Cover Letter
2. Résumé
3. Formal City Application

## SELECTION TIMELINE

Application deadline: 1/30/26, 4:30 pm

Finalists selected: 2/04/26

Interviews conducted: 2/09/26 - 2/11/26

## SEND APPLICATION MATERIALS TO

Jim Bakken  
Preston Public Utilities  
210 Fillmore ST W  
PO Box 657  
Preston MN 55965

Office: 507-765-2153

Email: [jbakken@prestonmn.gov](mailto:jbakken@prestonmn.gov)



# **WATER/SEWER/STREET WORKER**

**Position Title:** Water/Sewer/Street Worker

**Pay Grade:** 6

**Department:** Public Works/Street

**FLSA Status:** Non-exempt

**Supervisor's Title:** General Manager/PWD

**Work Status:** Full-time

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## **Purpose**

Performs non-supervisory work for the daily operation and maintenance of the water treatment plants, distribution system, sewer collections system, city streets, storm sewers, and facilities. Operates and maintains a variety of heavy, medium, and light equipment, participates in snow plowing/sanding, and performs grounds-keeping tasks. Serves on-call and responds to urgent and emergency situations and other call-outs.

## **Organizational Relationships**

Reports to: General Manager/Public Works Director

Communicates with: Internally – Other public works employees

Externally – Other water operators, MDH, suppliers, other city public works departments, county and state public works departments, local businesses and organizations, and the general public.

Supervises: None

## **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

### **WATER/SEWER OPERATOR**

- General maintenance tasks on building and grounds of water treatment plants.
- Assists in planning/prioritizing maintenance and repair schedules.
- Engages in planning activities with input from General Manager/Public Works Director and consultants for new construction and maintenance projects.
- Does routine maintenance and repairs of water, sewer, and storm water lines including manholes.
- Installs new water and sewer service lines and connections.
- Installs or pulls and replaces water meters; performs some repairs by cleaning or replacement of worn or defective parts.
- Inspects lines for leaks, poor pressure, or other problems. Responds to emergency calls.
- Locates, inspects, and repairs mains. Inspects, flushes, and repairs hydrants.
- Responsible for maintenance and repair of water treatment plant.
- Attends water and wastewater system-related training including seminars, conferences, and other training sessions.
- Monthly samples for fluoride, E.coli, and bacti for state reports.
- Submits monthly water report to utility office manager.
- Maintains inventory and order supplies.
- Responds to emergency calls during off hours.
- Reads water and electric meters and records readings.
- Makes special readings as directed.

- Helps to operate power plant.

#### **STREET WORKER**

- Operates a variety of heavy, medium, and light duty equipment: loader, grader, backhoe, plow truck, sweeper, dump truck, pick-up, and riding mower.
- Daily inspects equipment and performs basic preventative maintenance, including help with repairs as needed.
- Performs summer maintenance on streets such as patching, assisting contractors in crack filling and seal coating, cleaning and repairing of storm sewers, street sweeping, and curb and gutter maintenance.
- Maintains boulevards and other green areas by mowing, weed trimming, trimming and removal of trees, plantings, and grass cutting.
- Performs winter maintenance on streets such as grading, plowing, loading, and removing snow and applying sand and other ice control on roads.
- Maintains street signs.
- Cleans up after storm damage, picking up downed trees, branches, and other debris; picks up and disposes of brush in the spring and fall. Maintains City's dump and compost sites.
- Assists in building maintenance performing some basic carpentry, electrical, and plumbing work.
- Reports nuisance items to the Public Works Director.
- Provides assistance to other departments as directed by Supervisor.
- Carries out preparations for City parades and festivals.
- Performs other related duties and responsibilities as assigned by Supervisor.
- Calls out crew for snow plowing.

#### **REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

- Knowledge of and ability to understand/apply state and federal rules pertaining to water and sanitary sewer lines.
- Knowledge of principles, practices, and procedures used in operation, maintenance, and repair of water treatment plants.
- Knowledge of local geography, City streets, business and residential areas.
- Knowledge of principles, practices, and procedures used in maintenance and repair of streets, parks, and other public works.
- Knowledge of traffic laws.
- Knowledge of OSHA and other safety related laws.
- Knowledge of hazardous waste regulations.
- Skill in performing tests on water using laboratory equipment.
- Ability to use a variety of hand and power tools and equipment.
- Ability to work independently and with others.
- Ability to establish effective work relationships with supervisors, subordinates, and other utility and city employees.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Ability to write legibly.
- Ability to use a radio, telephones, and other office equipment.
- Ability to solve problems and make decisions using appropriate processes and tools.
- Ability to understand and make mathematical calculations.

- Ability to analyze situations and determine appropriate action and to respond quickly and appropriately to crisis and emergency situations.
- Ability exert moderate to considerable physical effort when performing a variety of tasks.
- Ability to lift heavy objects, some weighing up to 75 pounds, and exert force through pushing and pulling.
- Ability to stand, walk, sit for extended periods.
- Ability to perform a variety physical movements such as bend, stoop, crouch, kneel, push, and pull, touch, and use both fine and large motor skills.
- Ability to understand and use technical manuals and other reference materials.
- Ability to attend training to maintain certifications and update knowledge/skills.

Machine, tools, and equipment used: utility vehicle, grader, backhoe, jetter, chipper, chainsaw, bucket truck, saws all, drill and small power tools, laboratory equipment, other hand and power tools, computer, printer, telephone, calculator, and other typical office equipment.

### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

- Class D water license.
- Valid Minnesota class B commercial driver's license.
- Considerable knowledge in operating and maintaining equipment.
- Two years of experience in general maintenance work and the operation of trucks and other types of equipment.

### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Class D water and sewer licenses.
- 4 years of experience in water distribution and sewer collection systems.
- Knowledge/background in basic carpentry, plumbing, and electrical.
- Communication skills and ability to work with others.

### **WORKING CONDITIONS**

Time spent outdoors and indoors with some tasks carried out in confined spaces or a variety of heights. Regularly uses fine motors skills to coordinate eyes, hands, and feet for the operation of a variety of public works tools, machines, and equipment. Regularly uses large motor skills to exert moderate to considerable physical effort while performing a variety of movements such as bending, crouching, twisting/turning, digging, and lifting up to 75 pounds. All vision abilities and senses, with the exception of taste, may be used depending on the particular task. Exposure to irritants/fumes, hazardous substances such as hot asphalt, tar, fuels, chlorine, acids, metals, gases, temperature extremes, vibrations, infectious diseases, dust and smoke, and noise can be occasional to frequent. Must be able to work in traffic and other stressful situations. Serves on call and responds to public works emergencies to include work on holidays, weekends, evenings, and during the night.

# City of Preston - Preston Public Utilities

## Application for Employment

An Equal Opportunity Employer

PO Box 657  
210 Fillmore Street West  
Preston, MN  
Phone: (507) 765-2153

We welcome you as an applicant for employment. Your application will be considered with others in competition for this vacancy. It is the policy of the City of Preston to not discriminate against or harass any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, marital status, sexual preference/orientation, or political affiliation. This policy applies to all positions.

The information contained in this application will be considered private and used only in conjunction with your possible employment. Please fill out the application completely as incomplete applications may be rejected. **While resumes are welcome, please do not write "see resume."**

Position applying for  Date of Application

How did you learn about this position or come to seek employment with the City of Preston? (Friend/Relative, Newspaper, Radio, Walk-in, Website, etc.)

Name     
Last First Middle

Present Address      
Street No. City State Zip

Residence Phone Number  Cellular Phone Number

May we contact you at work?  
☐ Yes ☐ No Work phone number  Between hours of

Email address (optional)

Are you 18 years old or over? ☐ Yes ☐ No Are you a citizen of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If not, do you have a work visa? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever been employed by the City of Preston before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, list dates and positions held

What type of employment are you seeking?

- ☐ Full-time regular  
☐ Full-time temporary (up to 6 mos.)  
☐ Part-time regular  
☐ Part-time temporary (up to 6 mos.)  
☐ Seasonal

When will you be available for employment? (check one of the following)

- ☐ Now  
☐ Beginning   
☐ Upon  weeks notice to present employer.

If you are applying for a position that requires driving, give your driver's license number and the State where it was issued.

License No.  State of issue

Select License class and endorsement ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

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## **SPECIAL SKILLS:**

List any special skills. (i.e. typing [give speed], shorthand, supervisory, skilled crafts, maintenance, drafting, personal computer [list software], calculating, duplicating, construction equipment, power tools, etc.) Attach additional sheets if needed.

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## **CRIMINAL HISTORY:**

*In accordance with Minnesota Criminal Rehabilitation Act Section 364.021, the City of Preston may request information regarding criminal history in the event that you become a finalist for the position which you are applying. For certain positions, criminal background information will be requested during the application stage. Further, the City may conduct a criminal background check on individuals upon making a contingent job offer. If the position requires a criminal background check, no offer of employment shall become final until receipt of the results of the criminal background check, the content of which is acceptable, and formal approval by the appointing authority.*

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## **EDUCATION:**

School	Name and Location	Course of Study	No. years completed	Did you graduate?	Degree or Diploma	GPA
High School				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Vocational/ Tech				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
College				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
Graduate				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

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## **PERSONAL REFERENCES:** (not former employers or relatives)

Name and occupation	Phone Number (with area code)	Relationship

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## EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE:

Please give an accurate and complete record of your full-time and part-time employment. Start with your present or most recent employer. Explain all gaps in employment. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Employer's Name:	Supervisor's Name & Tel Number:	Dates Employed:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	From: <input type="text"/>
Employer's Address: (Street Name and Number, City, State, Zip)		To: <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time
Job Title:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-Time
Nature of Duties:	<input type="text"/>	Ave hrs per week <input type="text"/>
Reason for Leaving: <input type="text"/>		May we contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Employer's Name:	Supervisor's Name & Tel Number:	Dates Employed:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	From: <input type="text"/>
Employer's Address: (Street Name and Number, City, State, Zip)		To: <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time
Job Title:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-Time
Nature of Duties:	<input type="text"/>	Ave hrs per week <input type="text"/>
Reason for Leaving: <input type="text"/>		May we contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Employer's Name:	Supervisor's Name & Tel Number:	Dates Employed:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	From: <input type="text"/>
Employer's Address: (Street Name and Number, City, State, Zip)		To: <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>		<input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time
Job Title:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Part-Time
Nature of Duties:	<input type="text"/>	Ave hrs per week <input type="text"/>
Reason for Leaving: <input type="text"/>		May we contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Employer's Name: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 25px; width: 100%;"></div>	Supervisor's Name & Tel Number: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 25px; width: 100%;"></div>	Dates Employed: From: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px;"></div> To: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px;"></div>
Employer's Address: (Street Name and Number, City, State, Zip) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 25px; width: 100%;"></div>		<input type="checkbox"/> Full-Time <input type="checkbox"/> Part-Time Ave hrs per week <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>
Job Title: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px;"></div>		
Nature of Duties: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>		
Reason for Leaving: <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 20px;"></div>		May we contact: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Use the space below to detail any additional information you believe is pertinent to the position you are seeking. (Use an additional sheet if necessary.) This may include any correspondence courses, special courses, seminars or training you have taken, special educational achievements, honors, certificates, licenses, or any other knowledge, skills, or abilities you wish to communicate.

I certify that all statements in this application are true. I authorize the City of Preston to investigate any of the statements contained in this application for employment in order to arrive at an employment decision. I agree that any misrepresentation or falsification will result in rejection of this application and may result in my removal from the job after employment. I understand that my employment may be contingent upon the results of a pre-employment physical examination and/or any other required examination. I also understand that this application is not intended to be a contract of employment.

**Print, sign and date application and return to the City of Preston along with Notice to Applicants form and Veterans Preference form** (if applicable).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant



# **NOTICE TO APPLICANTS**

(Please read this important information)

## **HOW THE MINNESOTA DATA PRACTICES ACT AFFECTS YOU:**

In accordance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MN Statute § 13.01 - 13.99) the City of Preston is informing you of your rights as they pertain to the information you provide when filling out the Application for Employment.

**Under the Act, the following information is automatically available to the public\*:** Veteran status, relevant test scores, your rank on our eligible list, your job history, your education and training, and your work availability.

**Your name is considered private\*\* until you become a finalist for employment by the City of Preston. You become a finalist when and if you are selected to be interviewed prior to being employed.**

**If you are hired, the following additional information about you will be public:** Your name; your actual gross salary and salary range; your actual gross pension; the value and nature of your fringe benefits; the basis for and the amount of any added remuneration (such as expense or mileage reimbursement in addition to your salary); your job title; your job description; the dates of your first and last employment with us; the existence and status of any complaints or charges against you while you work for the City of Preston (whether or not they result in a disciplinary action); the final outcome of any disciplinary action taken against you as an employee of the City of Preston and all the supporting documentation about your case (the final disposition of any disciplinary action together with the specific reasons for the action and data documenting the basis of the action, excluding data that would identify confidential sources who are employees of the public body); the terms of any agreement settling any dispute arising out of the employment relationship between you and the City of Preston; your badge number; your work location and work telephone number; previous work experience; education and training background; honors and awards received; payroll time sheets or other comparable data that are used only to account for your work time for payroll purposes, except to the extent that release of time sheet data would reveal the employee's reasons for the use of sick or other medical leave or other data that is not public; and your photograph may be shown to a witness as part of an investigation of a charge or complaint against you.

Anything not listed above which is placed in your application folder or your personnel file (such as medical information, letter of recommendation, resumes, etc.) is made by this statute private information and will not be shared with anyone but those members of our staff and appointing authorities or their designees who need it to process your application or file your personnel record or to conduct normal City of Preston business. Also, the following agencies may be authorized by state or federal law to receive private information from your file in order to investigate specific complaints of employment discrimination: the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the State departments of Human Rights or Civil Rights. Otherwise, no private record of yours will be shared with any outside person or agency without your informed consent or a valid court order

## **PURPOSES AND USES**

The information requested is used for the following reasons:

1. To distinguish you from all other applicants
2. To enable us to contact you when additional information is required, to send you notices and/or schedule interviews
3. To enable us to ensure your rights to equal opportunities
4. To meet federal and state reporting requirements
5. To make processing more efficient

The data supplied by you may be used for such other purposes as may be determined to be necessary in the administration of personnel in the City of Preston and the policies, rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

## **EFFECTS OF NON-DISCLOSURE**

You are not legally required to supply any of the data we ask for on your application, but if you choose to withhold it, your application will not be complete and you may not be considered for employment. If you do provide the data, your application will be considered and if you are employed the information you have given us will become part of your employee record.

\* "public" means that it is available to anyone who asks to see it

\*\* "private" information is available only to the person it is about and to the staff who must use it in the normal course of conducting City of Preston business.

**I have read the information above on Minnesota Data Practices.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

**\*\*\*RETURN THIS SHEET WITH THE APPLICATION\*\*\***

# VETERANS PREFERENCE POINTS APPLICATION

In Accordance with Minnesota Statute § 43A.11

For Office Use Only:

☐ 5 pts ☐ 10 pts

If you are a veteran based on M.S. § 43A.11, then you may claim Veteran's Preference points. Veteran's Preference points will be added to the passing score of the qualified applicant. To qualify for Veteran's Preference, the following criteria must be met:

Have separated under honorable conditions from any branch of the armed forces of the United States, and; have served on active duty for 181 consecutive days or more, or for the full period ordered to active duty (not active duty for training); OR have separated by reason of disability incurred while serving on active duty, and; be a United States citizen or resident alien. *OR:* Be the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran (as defined above) or the spouse of a disabled because of the disability is not able to qualify.

The information you provide on this form will be used to determine your eligibility for veterans preference points. You are not required to supply this information, but we cannot award veteran's points without it.

**ARE YOU APPLYING FOR VETERAN'S PREFERENCE POINTS?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, please complete the form below. If No, please sign here: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Veteran

Full Name of Applicant (if different than Veteran)

Present Address (street number, city, state and zip)

Branch of Service

Period of Active Duty

From  To

Rank At Discharge

Type of Discharge

Date of Final Discharge

Service Number

Do your years of Military Service Qualify you for a Pension?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you have a compensable service related disability?

☐ Yes ☐ No % of Disability

## **PREFERENCE REQUESTED**

☐ **Veteran (10 pts)** (DD214 must be submitted to receive points)

☐ **Disabled Veteran (15 pts)** (DD214 and USDVA letter of disability rating decision of 10% or more must be submitted to receive points.)

☐ **Spouse of Disabled Veteran (15 pts)** (DD214 and USDVA letter of disability rating decision of 10% or more must be submitted to receive points.)

☐ **Spouse of Deceased Veteran (10 pts, 15 pts if the veteran was disabled)** (Attach DD214, photocopy of marriage certificate, spouse's death certificate and proof veteran died on or as a result of activity duty must be submitted to receive points. You are ineligible to receive points if you have remarried or were divorced from the veteran.)

Your Preference Points application **cannot** be considered without supporting documentation. If the documentation is not attached, it must be received in our office no later than five calendar days after the application deadline for the position in order to guarantee points are awarded in a timely manner. Supporting documentation:

☐ is attached ☐ Will be submitted within five days of Application Deadline

**I hereby claim veteran's preference for this position and (swear/affirm) that the information given on this document is true and correct. I also authorize release of necessary information by the Veteran's Administration to the City of Preston.**

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_