24. From symmetry, we see that the net field at P is twice the field caused by the upper semicircular charge $+q = \lambda \cdot \pi R$ (and that it points downward). Adapting the steps leading to Eq. 22-21, we find

$$\vec{E}_{\text{net}} = 2\left(-\hat{\text{j}}\right)\frac{\lambda}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 R}\sin\theta\Big|_{-90^\circ}^{90^\circ} = -\frac{q}{\varepsilon_0\pi^2 R^2}\hat{\text{j}}.$$

(a) With R = 8.50×10^{-2} m and $q = 1.50 \times 10^{-8}$ C, $|\vec{E}_{\text{net}}| = 23.8$ N/C.

(b) The net electric field $\vec{E}_{\text{net}}$ points in the $-\hat{\text{j}}$ direction, or -90° counterclockwise from the $+x$ axis.