



## Operation & Maintenance Plan Filter Strip (Code 393)

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Landowner/Operator:

Date:

NRCS Service Center:

Conservation District:

Practice Location:

Tract/Field ID:

(Lat/Long or UTM Coord, or Sec/TS/R)

### Expected Lifespan

The minimum expected lifespan of this practice is at least 10 years.

A properly operated and maintained **Filter Strip Practice** is an asset to your farm operation and your agricultural land. Implementation of Filter Strip will help you to achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by supporting one or more of the following purposes:

- Reduce suspended solids and associated contaminants in runoff and excessive sediment in surface waters.
- Reduce dissolved contaminant loadings in runoff.
- Reduce suspended solids and associated contaminants in irrigation tailwater and excessive sediment in surface waters.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some requirements of the operation and maintenance program.

### Operation and Maintenance

- For the purposes of filtering contaminants and nutrients (phosphorus), permanent filter strip vegetative plantings will be harvested and removed as appropriate to encourage dense growth, maintain an upright growth habit and remove nutrients and other contaminants that are contained in the plant tissue.
- Control undesired weed species, especially State-listed noxious weeds.
- If Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Prescribed Burning (Code 338) is used to manage and maintain the filter strip, an approved burn plan must be developed.
- Inspect the filter strip after storm events and repair any gullies that have formed, remove unevenly deposited sediment accumulation that will disrupt sheet flow, reseed disturbed areas and take other measures to prevent concentrated flow through the filter strip.
- Apply supplemental nutrients as needed, according to soil tests, to maintain the desired species composition and stand density.
- Periodically regrade and reestablish the filter strip area when sediment deposition at the filter strip-field interface jeopardizes its function. Reestablish the filter strip vegetation in regraded areas, if needed.
- If grazing is used to harvest vegetation from the filter strip it must be according to an NRCS approved grazing plan. The grazing plan must ensure that the integrity and function of the filter strip is not adversely affected. Grazing will be permitted only when the vegetation's root system has been sufficiently established and when soil moisture conditions support livestock traffic without excessive compaction.

## **Specific Site Requirements**