



## Operation & Maintenance Plan Surface Drain, Field Ditch (Code 607)

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### Expected Lifespan

The minimum expected lifespan of this practice is at least 15 years.

A properly operated and maintained **Surface Drain System (Field Ditch)** is an asset to your property. The purpose of this practice is to divert excess surface and subsurface water, intercept groundwater or control the level of the water table. The life of the practice can be assured and usually extended by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some requirements to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

### Operation and Maintenance

1. Maintain channel cross-section and gradient by removing sediment deposits or other obstructions caused by erosion or sloughing.
2. Control the growth of brush or other undesirable vegetation by the use of herbicides and/or mowing. Avoid direct contact with drainage water by the herbicides.
3. Install and maintain fences to control livestock access when adjacent fields are used for pasture.
4. Remove all foreign debris or obstructions that may hinder the system operation.
5. Eradicate or otherwise remove all burrowing animals. Repair any damage caused by their activity.
6. Immediately repair damage to side slopes, channel bottom, outlets or other appurtenances.
7. Replace weathered or displaced riprap to its original grade.

### Operation, Maintenance and Inspection Costs

1. It is estimated that the annual time to routinely inspect and make minor repairs to your Waste Storage Facility will be:
  - a. Inspection = 2 hours/year/1000 feet
  - b. Minor Repairs = 2 hours/year/1000 feet
  - c. Mowing = 2 hours/year/1000 feet
  - d. Sediment & Debris Removal = 2 hours/year/1000 feet
  - e. Major repairs to damage caused by major storm event will require extra time and materials.
2. Most minor repairs can be made by the operator using basic hand tools.
3. Most maintenance, such as mowing, debris removal, sediment removal, reseeding, etc. can be accomplished using common farm machinery. Occasionally major damage may require heavy construction equipment to make repairs.

## **Specific Site Requirements**