



## Operation & Maintenance Plan Trails and Walkways (Code 575)

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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.

Properly operated and maintained **Trails and Walkways** are an asset to your property. The purpose is to provide a stable travel way for livestock on your property. 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.

### Safety

1. It is not intended that Trails and Walkways be utilized as an access road. Routine use of equipment will accelerate the wear and tear of the walkway thus increasing the overall operation and maintenance and costs.
2. Minimize usage during wet periods to limit damage of the trails and walkways.

### Inspection and Maintenance

1. Routinely monitor the trail or walkway to assess any damage or the degree of maintenance that is needed. At a minimum, inspect travel way on an annual basis. However, provide additional inspection after all major storm events. Repair any and all damage as soon as it is recognized.
2. Trail or walkway shall only be used to move livestock from one location to another. Never confined livestock to the travel way so they congregate which in turn leads to a buildup of manure and deteriorating the quality of water flowing from the trail or walkway.
3. Remove any accumulated manure and organic material as soon as it is recognized and re-grade the wear surface as necessary.
4. Maintain the wear surface in a good condition, which includes periodic grading, filling or repair of the surface and occasional resurfacing with new materials, as needed.
5. Routinely grade the travel way to remove depressions and ruts and to prevent ponding of water. Maintain a crown to the trail or walkway.
6. Maintain fence to keep livestock on the travel lane. Follow the O&M for Fences for any fence installed as part of the trail or walkway.
7. Remove debris from bridge and culvert openings to prevent blockage of stream crossings.
8. Immediately repair any damage to earth or gravel fills, culverts or other appurtenances.
9. Keep diversions, waterways and ditches clean of sediment and debris that may cause water to back up on to the trail or walkway.
10. Reseed and mulch barren areas outside the normal wear surface of the travel way.

### Operation, Maintenance and Inspection Costs

1. It is estimated that the annual time to routinely inspect and make minor repairs to your Trail or Walkway will be:
  - a. Inspection = 1 hour/month/1000 feet of Trail or Walkway
  - b. Minor Repairs = 1 hour/month/1000 feet of Trail or Walkway
  - c. Total Annual Time = 24 Hours/Year

- d. Repairs shall include but are not limited to any time to replace and/or repair; rocks, gravel, reseeding, etc.
  - e. During the lifespan, it is expected that additional stone and/or gravel will be required to routinely build up and maintain the wear surface of the Trail or Walkway.
  - f. Major repairs to damage caused by major storm event will require extra time and materials.
2. Most maintenance, such as mowing, replacing displaced gravel, etc., can be accomplished using common farm machinery. Occasional damage, caused by major storm events may require heavy construction equipment to make repairs.

### **Specific Site Requirements**