Operation & Maintenance Plan
Roof and Covers (Code 367)

Expected Lifespan

The minimum expected lifespan of this practice is at least 10 year(s).

Operation and Maintenance Items

Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with the Natural Resources Conservation Service assistance. A rigid, semi-rigid, or flexible manufactured membrane, composite material, or roof structure placed over a waste management facility, agrichemical handling facility, or an on-farm secondary containment facility. The land user is responsible for proper O&M for as long as the practice is used but no less than the life of the practice, 10 years, and as may be required by federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

Operation refers to operation of the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components which fail.

Necessary operation and maintenance items include:

1. Inspect after significant storm events and at least annually to identify repair and maintenance needs.
2. Conduct maintenance and repairs in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
3. Promptly repair or replace all damaged, inoperable, or missing components and safety features, including fences and warning signs.
4. If cover ballooning exceeds manufacture's limits due to gas accumulation, promptly implement manufacturer's recommended emergency procedures.
5. Follow your comprehensive nutrient management plan.
6. Keep direct precipitation collection components and drainage structures clean and functional.
7. All appurtenances, e.g. pipes, pumps, fences, gates, etc., should be inspected at least twice a year to ensure they are functional, structurally sound, and are not a safety hazard to the operator or livestock. Repair as needed.
8. Do not enter confined places without proper safety precautions for breathing and exiting the structure while inspecting or repairing equipment.
9. Develop an emergency action plan for covered systems associated with biogas production. The emergency plan shall contain instructions as to limits of the cover performance and emergency procedures if control equipment fails.
10. For enclosed waste facilities, exercise caution and care during cover removal or access. If opening the cover is required for facility management include provision to prevent exposure of workers to hazardous gases.
11. If personnel are or may be required to enter an enclosed waste facility, include safety provisions recommended by NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) for working in confined spaces including but not limited to using a positive-pressure self-contained breathing apparatus safety line, and standby personnel.

Specific Site Requirements