

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
POND**

CODE 378

Name _____	Ident. No. _____
Legal Desc. _____	County _____

A properly operated and maintained water impoundment structure is an asset to your property. This structure was designed and installed to provide water for livestock, fish and wildlife, recreation, fire control, and other related uses and to maintain or improve water quality. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 20 years. The life of this installation can be ensured and usually increased 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. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program. Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for technical assistance on repairs or modifications to the structure or if new potential hazards are constructed in the breach inundation area.

General Recommendations

- Periodically inspect the spillways for proper functioning and their ability to maintain the water level to design elevations. Operate valves at least annually to maintain good working condition.
- Immediately remove any blockage or obstructions of spillways, trash racks, and pipelines.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilizing, and applying herbicides when necessary. Periodically mow to control height.
- Maintain installed fences to prevent unauthorized human access or uncontrolled livestock grazing.

- Immediately repair any damage due to vandalism, vehicles, or livestock that has been done to the structure or other appurtenances.
- Check all structure drains for flow and note the estimated flow rate along with the pool level. Keep the screens and/or rodent guards in place.
- Inspect for damage from rodents or burrowing animals. Repair any damage and take appropriate actions to avoid further damage.
- Remove woody vegetation from the embankments and the auxiliary spillway.
- Check the embankment top and slopes for settlement or cracks. Check slopes for uniformity, bulges, sloughs, or wet areas.
- Repair spalls, cracks, and weathered areas in concrete surfaces. Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal and paint it.
- Inspect rock riprap and replace weathered or displaced rock as needed to the constructed grade.
- Review the breach inundation area for potential new hazards.

Specific Recommendations

If you need additional technical assistance to implement the operation and maintenance plan for this structure, contact NRCS at your local USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government).