

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
SOLID/LIQUID WASTE SEPARATION FACILITY**

CODE 632

Name _____

Ident. No. _____

Legal Desc. _____

County _____

A properly operated and maintained solid/liquid waste separation facility is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed to partition solids, liquids, and their associated nutrients; to improve or protect air quality; to improve or protect water quality; or to improve or protect animal health.

The estimated life span of this installation is at least 15 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 for satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

General Recommendations

- Investigate all erosion, settlement, or cracks in earthen sections to determine the cause. Immediately repair damages.
- Periodically inspect spillways, pipe, control gates, valves, and weirs for proper functioning and their ability to maintain the water level to design elevations. Remove debris or flow blockages.
- Inspect metal surfaces for rust and other damage. Especially inspect sections in contact with earthfill and/or other materials. Repair or replace damaged sections and paint them.

- Inspect concrete for accelerated weathering, spalling, settlement, misalignment, or cracks. Repair defects.
- Inspect for damage by rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage and take appropriate corrective actions to avoid further damage.
- Remove accumulated debris in or near the settling basin. Remove solids periodically or when the basin is almost full.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilizing, and applying herbicides when necessary. Periodically mow to control the height.
- Remove all shrubs and woody vegetation. This includes shrubs and trees that are growing close enough to the settling basin to impact it with root growth.
- If fences are installed, maintain them to prevent unauthorized human access or uncontrolled livestock grazing.
- Maintain all pumps, agitators, piping, valves, and other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition by following the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Maintain grounding rods and wiring for all electrical equipment in good condition.
- Keep shields and other required safety items in place to protect the operator.

(more)

Specific Recommendations

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