

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD
RHODE ISLAND**

OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL

(Ac.)

CODE 500

DEFINITION

Removal and disposal of unwanted, unsightly or hazardous buildings, structures, vegetation, landscape features, and other materials.

PURPOSE

To safely remove and dispose of unwanted obstructions and materials in order to apply conservation practices or facilitate planned use of abandoned mine lands, farms, ranches, construction sites, and recreation areas.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

On land where existing obstructions interfere with planned use and development.

CRITERIA

Laws and Regulations. All Federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations, including local inland wetland agency regulations, governing the construction and use of this practice as well as setbacks from wells, surface water and property boundaries shall be followed. Planned work shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws and permit conditions and requirements. **The landowner shall obtain all necessary permits prior to construction or any land clearing activities.**

Obstruction removal shall be planned, designed, and carried out to meet all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Rock piles, boulders, stones, fences, hedgerows, abandoned buildings and structures, trash, and similar obstructions that would interfere with planned use and development shall be removed. All debris such as broken concrete and masonry, structural steel and wood, stones, stumps, slash, and sterile or toxic soil shall be disposed of so that they will not impede subsequent work or cause damage to offsite or other areas.

Disposal shall be by burning, burying, or removing to an approved landfill in an environmentally acceptable manner.

All required gully shaping shall be performed to specified dimensions and grades. Fills shall be compacted as appropriate. The cover over buried materials shall be designed to be adequate for the planned use, treatment, and vegetation.

Appropriate erosion control practices shall be applied on disturbed areas. Disturbed areas shall be treated to control erosion. All areas disturbed by construction shall be seeded in accordance with the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 342, Critical Area Planting.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications shall be in keeping with this standard and shall describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended purpose. Plans and specifications shall include construction plans, drawings, job sheets or other similar documents. These documents shall as a minimum, specify the requirements for installing the practice and include the kind, quantity and quality of materials

to be used.

To the extent practical, specifications shall conform to NRCS National Engineering Handbook Parts 642 and 643 (Section 20).

AS BUILT DRAWINGS

As built drawings shall be prepared which show all pertinent elements and elevations as actually installed. A copy shall be provided to the owner / operator upon construction completion.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

An Operation and Maintenance (O&M) plan shall be prepared for, reviewed and signed by the landowner or operator. The plan shall specify that the treated areas and associated practices are inspected annually and after significant storm events to identify repair and maintenance needs.

The O&M plan shall detail the level of repairs needed to maintain the effectiveness and useful life of the practice.