

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD

RECREATION AREA IMPROVEMENT

(acre)
CODE 562

DEFINITION

Establishing grasses, legumes, vines, shrubs, trees, or other plants or selectively reducing stand density and trimming woody plants to improve an area for recreation.

PURPOSE

To increase the attractiveness and usefulness of recreation areas and to protect the soil and plant resources.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

On any area planned for recreation use.

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**Water Quantity**

1. Effects on the water budget, especially on volumes and rates of runoff, infiltration, and transpiration.

Water Quality

1. Effects of erosion and the movement of sediment, pathogens, and soluble and sediment-attached substances that could be carried by runoff. Important factors are short-term changes caused by construction (sediments, fuels, oils, and other chemicals) compared to long-

term changes caused by the same substances resulting from recreation activities.

2. Effects of changes in ground water from infiltrating soluble substances associated with vegetation management and recreation activities.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Site-specific specifications which document the requirements for installing, operating and maintaining the practice on a particular field or treatment unit to achieve its intended purpose(s), will be prepared in accordance with this standard and the practice specification.

The site-specific specifications shall document: treatments, plant materials, and maintenance measures for each type of recreation area.

The site-specific specifications shall be documented via jobsheets, worksheets, maps, drawings, and/or narrative statements in the conservation plan. The document(s) should be given to the client as a prescription for their site.

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
