

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE
FOR YOUR
WATERING FACILITY – TROUGH OR TANK**

OPERATOR: _____ DATE: _____

TAX MAP KEY OF PRACTICE LOCATION: _____

NRCS OFFICE: _____ PHONE: _____

A properly operated and maintained watering facility is an asset to your farm. This watering facility is designed and installed to store water where it may be utilized. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this watering facility can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

OPERATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prevent livestock damage to system and system appurtenances.
- Always open and close valves very slowly.

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make sure all valves, floats, overflows, and drains are functional and in good working condition.
- Maintain fences or barriers that protect the tank or trough from livestock damage.
- Maintain all coverings and protection for all pipelines and drainlines.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.
- Remove algae or debris in the trough or tank, which may restrict the inflow or outflow.
- Check tank for leaks, wall separations or cracks, and repair immediately.
- Area adjacent to trough is well protected with gravel, paving, or good vegetative cover to prevent erosion.
- Maintain roof or cover over tank liner to provide protection against sunlight.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE OFFICE FOR ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU MIGHT NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN.