

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN  
TROUGH OR TANK  
CODE 614**

Landowner/Operator

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Job Location \_\_\_\_\_ GPS

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Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with NRCS assistance. The landuser is responsible for proper O&M throughout the life of the practice and as may be required by Federal, state or local laws or regulations.

Operation refers to operation of the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components which fail.

Necessary operation and maintenance items for this practice include:

- Inspect connections, valves, gates, rodent guards, inlets and outlets to make sure they are functioning properly. Check troughs and tanks for leaks or cracks. Make repairs or replacements as needed.
- Make certain the area adjacent to the trough is well protected with gravel, paving, or good cover. Be sure that the outlet pipe (if any) has a free outlet and is not causing any serious erosion problems.
- Remove any debris from the trough or tank. Clean the entire system periodically and remove moss, algae and/or sludge. Chemicals such as copper sulfate and chlorine may be used to prevent moss and algae growth. Health regulations must be followed when using chemicals to make sure they are safe for animals.
- Maintain coverings and insulation to prevent-damage by freezing.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetation. This includes reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control growth.
- Remove rodents and/or burrowing animals that have or may damage the system. Repair any damage caused by their activity.
- Repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.

Other

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