

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE
FOR YOUR
WATER AND SEDIMENT CONTROL BASIN**

OPERATOR: _____ DATE: _____

TAX MAP KEY OF PRACTICE LOCATION: _____

NRCS OFFICE: _____ PHONE: _____

A properly operated and maintained sediment control basin is an asset to your farm. This sediment control basin is designed and installed to collect, remove, and provide temporary storage of sediment and water. The estimated 10-year life of this installation can be assured and will be increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

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

OPERATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Periodic removal of sediment is necessary to maintain the effectiveness of this installation. The clean-out intervals may vary depending upon the volume of sediment that has accumulated. As a general rule, the basin will lose its effectiveness when about 50 percent of the design depth is filled with sediment.
- After each large storm, inspect the basin and perform the needed maintenance.
- Make sure all structure drains are functional and soil is not being transported through the drainage system.
- Operate system in a manner that minimizes odor and air drift.

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Remove sediment when it reaches the design storage depth.
- Remove any debris that may accumulate in or immediately upstream of the basin.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height.
- If fences are installed, they shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized or livestock entry.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to any earth fills, spillways, or outlets.
- Repair spalls, cracks and weathered areas in concrete surfaces.
- Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal and paint.

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