

PRACTICE SPECIFICATION

GRASSED WATERWAY

1. SCOPE

The work shall consist of excavating, filling and shaping as necessary for the construction of the waterway(s) as shown on the attached drawings, NE-ENG-21 "Data Sheet for Grassed Waterways or Outlets", or at locations as directed by the designated technician.

2. CLEARING AND GRUBBING

The area to be occupied by the waterway including channel and side dikes shall be cleared, removed and grubbed of all trees, brush, shrubs, stumps, and other objectionable material that will interfere with the proper functioning of the waterway. Grubbing shall consist of the removal of all stumps, roots of 1-inch in diameter or larger, buried logs and other objectionable material to a minimum depth of 2-feet below finished channel grade.

3. DISPOSAL OF REFUSE OR OTHER UNSUITABLE EXCAVATED MATERIALS

Unless otherwise specified, all refuse or other unsuited material shall be burned or buried outside the waterway area or piled outside the waterway for proper disposal by the landowner. Burning is not allowed until proper permits are secured from the local fire department. All state and local fire and air pollution regulations will be adhered to.

4. EXCAVATION

Excavation shall be to the lines and grades shown on the attached drawings or the NE-ENG-21 "Data Sheet for Grassed Waterways or Outlets". All surplus or unsuitable excavated materials shall be disposed of at the locations shown on the drawings or at locations approved by the NRCS technician.

5. FILLING AND SHAPING

Soil to be used as fill material will normally be obtained from the sides of the existing channel. The material shall be free from rocks, brush, and stones over 6 inches in diameter and from any other objectionable material. Frozen materials will not be placed in the fill nor will materials be placed on a frozen foundation.

The moisture content of the fill material shall be sufficient to obtain adequate compaction.

Earth fill shall be compacted by the controlled movement of the hauling and/or spreading equipment over the fill area so that each lift of fill shall be completely covered at least once by the rubber tired hauling equipment.

The maximum thickness of a lift of fill before compaction shall be 9 inches.

Saline and/or alkaline, rock/gravel, poor quality soils or other undesirable material uncovered during filling and shaping shall be undercut/removed and replaced with suitable compacted topsoil so that vegetation can be established.

6. FINISHING AND VEGETATING

All soil removed or filled during the construction of the waterway shall be spread or disposed of so that surface runoff will properly drain into the waterway. The final cross section and grade of the waterway will be as specified on the attached drawings, NE-ENG-21 "Data Sheet for Grassed Waterways or Outlets" or other design specifications.

The channel and side slopes will be finished to reasonably smooth and uniform surfaces, free of ruts or deep wheel tracks so that final seedbed preparation can be accomplished with regular farm machinery. The channel must be properly shaped so that runoff water will spread evenly across the cross section. Seeding, fertilizing, cover crop and mulching requirements are as specified on form NE-CPA-8 "Job Sheet for Grass Seeding" and other design specifications.

Protect new grass seedings from livestock grazing, fire and vehicular traffic until well established. Control annual grass weeds by using pre-emergent herbicides and or a cover crop to reduce competition and conserve soil moisture. Control broadleaf weeds by clipping above the height of grasses or using registered post-emergent herbicides. All herbicides must be applied according to the product label instructions.