

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
IRRIGATION CANAL OR LATERAL
CODE 320**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____ GPS _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained irrigation canal or lateral system is an asset to your farm. This practice was designed and installed to safely convey irrigation water. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out an effective operation and maintenance program. An effective operation and maintenance program includes:

- Maintain cross-section and gradient by controlling channel erosion and bank sloughing.
- Remove any debris, or blockage of spillways, trash racks, inlets, or outlets.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilizing, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control excessive growth.
- Install and maintain fences to prevent livestock access when adjacent fields are used for pasture.
- Inspect rock riprap for accelerated weathering and displacement. Repair to original grades if necessary.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Repair any damage.
- Repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage.

Other _____

