

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
STEEL PIPELINE
CODE 430-FF**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained irrigation pipeline is an asset to the farm. This irrigation pipeline was designed and installed to transmit water to place of use. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this pipeline can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out an effective operation and maintenance program. An effective operation and maintenance program includes:

- Check to make sure all valves and air vents are set at the proper operating condition so they may provide protection to the pipeline.
- Maintain the design depth of cover over the pipeline and backfill around structures.
- Limit traffic over the pipeline to designated sections that were designed for traffic loads. Avoid travel over pipelines by tillage equipment when the soil is saturated, avoid any subsoiling operation that may disturb the pipeline.
- Where sacrificial anodes are used for cathodic protection, check their condition on a regular basis as outlined below or in the design. Repair or replace as necessary.
- Check exterior coatings on above-ground and on-ground pipeline installations. Repair any damage immediately.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing or short term grazing may also be needed to control height.
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Drain the system and components in areas that are subject to freezing. If parts of the system cannot be drained, an antifreeze solution may be added.
- Repair any rodent, burrowing animal, vandalism, vehicle, or livestock damage.

Other _____
