NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

GRADE STABILIZATION STRUCTURE

CODE 410

Land Owner/Operator_____

County_____ SWCD_____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By_____ Date 06/23/2004

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained grade stabilization structure is an asset to the farm. The grade stabilization structure was designed and installed to stabilize an eroding area and to safely convey runoff from the drainage area. Estimated life span of the installation is at least _____ years. The life of the structure can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program requirements include:

- The embankment and outlet structures shall be inspected annually, as a minimum. They shall also be inspected after major storm events.
- Damage to the embankment and outlet structures shall be repaired immediately.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Apply supplemental nutrients as needed to maintain the desired species composition and stand density. Control undesired weed species, especially state-listed noxious weeds.
- Woody vegetation will be removed from the embankment. Damage to the embankment from burrowing animals will be repaired and the animals shall be removed.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, livestock, or storm damage to earthfills, side slopes, spillways, outlets or other appurtenances.
- Avoid operating farm equipment too close to the structure. Maintain fences needed to exclude livestock, human, and vehicular traffic.
- Remove debris accumulation at the structure, and immediately upstream or downstream. Debris accumulation can reduce hydraulic capacity and cause structural damage or failure during a runoff event.

- Make sure all structure drains are functional and soil is not being transported through the drainage system. The screens and/or rodent guards shall also be kept in place.
- Periodically replace and relocate any rock riprap either by machine or by hand. Repair or replace riprap rocks to the lines and grades of the original design.

Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements Specific to this Plan:_____