

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR  
WASTE TREATMENT**

**CODE 629**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Desc. \_\_\_\_\_

Ident. No. \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_

Properly operated and maintained waste treatment is an asset to your farm. This mechanical, chemical, or biological treatment facility and/or process was designed and installed to improve ground and surface water quality by reducing the nutrient content, organic strength, and/or pathogen levels of agricultural waste; to improve air quality by reducing odors and gaseous emissions; to produce value-added by-products; or to facilitate desirable waste handling, storage, or land application alternatives. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation can be ensured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance for satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

**General Recommendations**

- Do not allow human entry to any enclosed structure without appropriate safety equipment. Ensure that all warning signs and safety instructions are posted in a visible location and are in readable condition. Repair or replace as necessary.
- Maintain all electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition by following the manufacturer's recommendations. Repair as necessary.
- Repair spalls, cracks, and weathered areas in concrete surfaces.

- Repair or replace rusted or damaged metal and paint it.
- Inspect grounding rods and wiring for all electrical equipment and repair or replace them as necessary.
- Immediately repair any damage due to vandalism, vehicles, or livestock.
- Obtain from the manufacturer the operation and maintenance manuals for pumps, blowers, instrumentation and control devices, and other equipment used as components of the waste treatment facility or process.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for startup procedures, normal operation, safety issues, and normal maintenance items.
- Use the recommended loading rates of the waste treatment facility or process according to hydraulic and critical pollutant parameters.
- Operate the waste treatment facility or process, including the amount and timing of any chemicals added, according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Plan for the replacement of components with less than a 10-year service life.
- Keep a troubleshooting guide available in the event of equipment failure.
- Use a monitoring and reporting plan that is designed to demonstrate system performance on an ongoing basis.

(more)

**Specific Recommendations**

**If you need additional technical assistance to implement the operation and maintenance plan for this structure, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) at your local USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government).**