

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD

RECREATION LAND GRADING AND SHAPING

(Ac.)

Code 566



Impact to cultural resources, wetlands and Federal and state protected species shall be evaluated and avoided or minimized to the extent practicable during planning, design and implementation of this conservation practice in accordance with established National and Florida policy, General Manual (GM) Title 420-Part 401; Title 450-Part 401, Title 190 Parts 410.22 and 410.26, National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH) Florida Supplements to Parts 6001 and 600.6, National Cultural Resources Procedures Handbook (NCRPH), National Food Security Act Manual (NFSAM), and the National Environmental compliance Handbook (NECH).

DEFINITION

Recreation land grading and shaping is reshaping the surface of the land to support recreation land use.

PURPOSES

- Establish or improve effective use of the land area for recreation.
- Minimize on-site and off-site damage to resources from recreation land use.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies to land areas where surface irregularities, slopes, obstructions, or surface drainage interfere with planned recreational use or where such use requires designed land surfaces.

CRITERIA

General Criteria Applicable To All Purposes

All planned work must comply with federal, state, local and tribal laws and regulations.

The planned grading or shaping must be configured to minimize adverse on-site and off-site impacts such as accelerated erosion, riparian zone degradation, stream channel and streambank damage, hydrology modification, other water resource damage, aesthetics or unacceptable damage to wildlife habitat, fragmentation, or restrict wildlife movement.

Grading and shaping. If only shaping is required, estimate the cuts and fills by observation or by a minimum amount of surveying. If grading to uniform surfaces is required, base the design on a complete topographic or grid survey. Plan the grading and shaping for specific uses, such as athletic fields to be in accordance of the requirements of the intended use.

Cuts and fills must be balanced to the greatest extent possible.

Soil compaction and displacement must be kept to a minimum.

Surface drainage. Plans must include measures for removing or otherwise providing for control of excess surface water.

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service.