

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN  
FOR  
UNDERGROUND OUTLET**

Landowner/user:  Date:

Address:

A properly operated and maintained **Underground Outlet** is an asset to your property. This outlet was designed and installed to dispose of excess water from diversions, subsurface drains, surface drains or other concentrations without causing damage by erosion or flooding. The estimated life span of this practice is at least 20 years. The life span of the practice can be assured 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 to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

**Operation and Maintenance**

1. Maintain the minimum design depth on all pipelines and structures.
2. Limit traffic over pipelines to those areas that were designed for traffic loads.
3. Avoid operation of tillage and subsoiling equipment that may disturb the pipeline or bedding.
4. Remove obstructions or blockages of inlet structures or outlets.
5. Make sure that outlets are free flowing and rodent guards are in place. Repair and stabilize any eroded areas.
6. Check inlets periodically. Make sure inlets are free flowing. Repair damaged components when necessary.
7. Eradicate or otherwise remove all burrowing animals. Repair any damage caused by their activity.
8. Repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.
9. All settlement, sink holes, cave-ins or cracks in the soil adjacent to the pipeline or appurtenances should be investigated to determine the cause and immediately repaired.

**Specific Recommendations for Your Practice**

---

---

---