

**U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OREGON**

**Operation and Maintenance Requirements
Irrigation Pipeline
Code 430**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Referral No. _____ 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 a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require performance of periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. A good 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 section 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.
- ⇒ Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This maintenance item may include reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height of vegetation.
- ⇒ 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.
- ⇒ Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.
- ⇒ Check exterior coatings on above-ground and on-ground pipeline installations. Repair any damage immediately.
- ⇒ Control soil erosion around valves and other appurtenances as needed.

