United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# Conservation Practice Standard Overview

## Access Control (472)

Access control includes temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area.

## Practice Information

Controlling access is often used to protect, maintain, or improve the quantity and quality of natural resources in an area. The purpose also includes aesthetic resources as well as human health and safety.

Access control can play a role in establishing, protecting, and maintaining vegetation, and is often essential to conserving the other natural resources.

The barriers constructed for access control must be adequate to prevent intrusion of the target animals, vehicles, or people. Barriers are usually fences, but may also be natural and artificial structures such as logs, boulders, earth fill, gates, signs, or similar structures.

## Common Associated Practices

Access Control (472) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Prescribed Grazing (528), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Vegetative Treatment Area (635), and Wetland Creation (658).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.