

POND SEALING OR LINING-FLEXIBLE MEMBRANE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

Operator: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

A properly maintained pond sealing or lining membrane is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed to control seepage from water and waste impoundments for water conservation and environmental protection on your farm. The practice must be maintained for the life span of the practice which is 20 years. The life of the pond lining can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This structure will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. The following actions shall be carried out to insure that the practice functions as intended throughout its life span.

Pond Sealing or Lining-Flexible Membrane (521A) is a complementary practice to the Pond (378) or Waste Storage Facility (313) practice. The following operation and maintenance items specifically related to Pond Sealing or Lining- Flexible Membrane should be added to the operation and maintenance plan for the individual Pond or Waste Storage Facility application:

1. Where erosion has damaged the flexible membrane liner and/or soil cover, identify the source of the water causing the erosion, repair liner damage and soil cover, and implement corrective measures to divert the water or control the erosion.
2. Where the soil cover has slipped along the sides of the pond and the flexible membrane liner is exposed, consult a qualified professional to determine the cause of the slippage, identify any needed corrective measures, and implement the corrective measures.
3. Repair any settlement or erosion that occurs with soil and reseed or resurface, as needed.
4. Check frequently for burrowing animals. When found, remove the burrowing animals, and, where needed repair flexible membrane liner, replace soil cover, and reseed or resurface.
5. Install and maintain a fence to prevent damage to the flexible membrane liner from animals, humans, vehicles, and/or equipment. A personal flotation device or other emergency equipment shall be accessible in case of an accidental entry into the pond.
6. Include the following in inspections of the pond or waste storage facility:
 - a. Check visible portions of liner for tears, punctures or other damage

- b. Check visible portions of liner interface with inlets, outlets, ramps, and other appurtenances for damage.
 - c. Check for bulging or ballooning (“whales”) of the liner indicating the presence of gas or water accumulation beneath the liner
 - d. Check venting system ensuring there is no blockage of outlets or damage to venting system that would allow water or waste to get behind the liner.
7. Follow manufacturer’s monitoring procedures for leak detection systems, including alarm level leakage rates and actions to be taken if these rates are exceeded
8. Repair any damage as soon as possible. Follow liner manufacturer’s recommendations for liner repairs.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR INSTALLATION

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE OFFICE FOR ANY ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU MIGHT NEED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR YOUR STRUCTURE.

New Castle Field Office
(302) 832-3100

Kent Field Office
(302) 741-2600

Sussex Field Office
(302) 856-3990

Landowner Signature: _____ Date: _____

Operator Signature: _____ Date: _____

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