

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**  
**GEORGIA**  
**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS**  
**DRY HYDRANT**  
**CODE 432**

Land Owner/Operator \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ SWCD \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Tract No. \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

A properly operated and maintained dry hydrant is an asset to your community. This structure was designed and installed to provide storage of water for fire suppression. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 15 years. The life of this installation can be assured and possibly increased by performing operation and maintenance (O&M) activities.

Failure to Operate and Maintain this system could result in actions to reclaim cost share and/or loss of any future financial or technical assistance.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program includes:

- If fences are installed, they shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized or livestock entry.
- Remove debris that may accumulate at the dry hydrant and immediately upstream or downstream from the dry hydrant.
- Immediately repair any erosion, vandalism, vehicular, damage to any earth fills, spillways, outlets or other appurtenances.
- Keep the site clear of obstructions and mow the dry hydrant access area regularly to maintain ready access to the hydrant for emergency use. When feasible, schedule mowing to take place outside primary nesting season for grass-nesting birds.
- Pump test the dry hydrant annually at the maximum designed flow rate to verify site usability. Back flush the system before testing. Inspect the hydrant each spring and fall and back flush if necessary to remove silt or sediment debris that may have accumulated on the screen.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals and repair any damage caused by their activity. (If threatened species are involved, follow policy on endangered or threatened species.)

