Irrigation Canal or Lateral

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 320

DEFINITION

An irrigation canal or lateral is constructed to convey water from the source of supply to one or more farms.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

The purpose of this practice is to deliver water to the farm irrigation system (s). The objectives of the practice are to reduce erosion, prevent degradation of water quality, and to improve efficient use of water by minimizing conveyance losses from seepage or structural failure.

All canals, laterals, and related structures are planned as an integral part of a total system designed to facilitate natural resource conservation on a farm or group of farms.

Plans for irrigation canal or lateral installations include related structures such as turnouts, checks, crossings, and other facilities needed for successful operation as an efficient system. All related structures are designed and installed to meet NRCS quality standards.

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.