

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
SEDIMENT BASIN**

CODE 350

Name _____	Ident. No. _____
Legal Desc. _____	County _____

A properly operated and maintained sediment basin is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed to:

- Preserve the capacity of reservoirs, wetlands, ditches, canals, diversions, waterways, and streams.
- Prevent undesirable deposition on bottom lands and developed areas.
- Trap sediment originating from construction sites or other disturbed areas.
- Reduce or abate pollution by providing basins for deposition and storage of silt, sand, gravel, stone, and other detritus.

The estimated life span of this installation is at least 20 years. The life of this installation can be ensured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance for satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

The elevations and dimensions of the pipe, auxiliary spillway, and embankment are not to be altered without prior approval of the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

General Recommendations

- Periodically remove sediment to maintain the effectiveness of this installation. Cleanout intervals may vary depending upon

the volume of sediment that has accumulated. As a general rule, the basin will lose its effectiveness when about 50 percent of the design volume is filled with sediment.

- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilizing, and applying herbicides when necessary. Periodically mow to control the height.
- If fences are installed, they shall be maintained to prevent unauthorized human access or entry of livestock.
- Remove any debris that may accumulate in or immediately upstream of the basin.
- Immediately repair any damage due to vandalism, vehicles, or livestock that has been done to earthfills, spillways, or outlets.
- Make sure that all structure drains are functional and that soil is not being transported through the drainage system. Keep the screens and/or rodent guards in place.
- Inspect for damage by rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage and take appropriate corrective actions to avoid further damage.
- Determine and eliminate causes of settlement or cracks in the earthen sections and repair damage.
- Replace weathered or displaced rock riprap to the constructed grade.

Specific Recommendations for This Project

If you need additional technical assistance to implement the operation and maintenance plan for this structure, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) at your local USDA Service Center (listed in the telephone book under United States Government).