

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
ROOFS AND COVERS**

CODE 367

Name _____

Ident. No. _____

Legal Desc. _____

County _____

A properly operated and maintained roof or cover is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed for:

- Water quality improvement by diverting clean water from animal management areas and/or waste storage facilities.
- Air quality improvement and odor reduction by capture of biogas for energy production.

The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 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.

General Recommendations

- Inspect the roof or cover for cracks, leaks, or points of distress. Repair as needed.
- Check for excessive ballooning of the flexible cover or the presence of excessive odor. Determine the cause and correct it.
- Manage excessive rainwater on the flexible cover.
- Provide instructions as to limits of cover ballooning and emergency procedures if control equipment fails when gas storage is included in the system design. These instructions can be part of an emergency action plan.

- Exercise caution and care during cover removal or access to enclosed waste facilities. If opening of the cover is required for facility management, include provisions to prevent exposure of workers to hazardous gases.
- Provide safety equipment if personnel are or may be required to enter an enclosed waste facility as recommended by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for working in confined spaces. These include (but are not limited to) using a positive-pressure self-contained breathing apparatus, safety line, and standby personnel.

Specific Recommendations

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).