

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
POND (EXCAVATION)**

CODE 378

Name _____
Legal Desc. _____

Ident. No. _____
County _____

A properly operated and maintained excavated water impoundment structure is an asset to your property. This structure was designed and installed to provide water for livestock, fish and wildlife, recreation, fire control, and other related uses and to maintain or improve water quality. 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 to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program. Contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for technical assistance on repairs or modifications to the structure or if new potential hazards are constructed in the breach inundation area.

General Recommendations

- Periodically inspect the natural spillway for proper functioning and the ability to maintain the water level to design elevations.
- Immediately remove any blockage or obstructions of spillways and pipes.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings on embankments or spoil locations. This includes reseeding, fertilizing, and applying herbicides when necessary. Periodically mow to control height.

- Maintain installed fences to prevent damage by livestock to steep excavated slopes.
- Immediately repair any damage due to vandalism, vehicles, or livestock that has been done to the embankment or excavated slopes.
- Remove woody vegetation from the embankment and the natural spillway.
- Inspect rock riprap or aggregates used for slope protection of the access ramp. Replace weathered or displaced rock as needed to the constructed grade.
- Remove accumulated sediment during dry periods or when accessible by excavating equipment to maintain constructed depth of the pond.

Specific Recommendations

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