

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS**

**RECREATION LAND GRADING AND SHAPING**

**1. Scope**

The work shall consist of all construction operations and furnishing of all materials as required by the drawings and specifications to reshape the surface of the land to support recreation land use.

**2. Location**

The location of the work shall be as shown on the drawings or as staked in the field.

**3. Site Preparation**

Clearing—The limits of the areas to be cleared will be marked by means of stakes, flags, tree markings, or other suitable means. Trees outside this area will be left standing and uninjured. Trees and other woody vegetation will be cut off no higher than 4 inches above the ground surface, unless otherwise specified in the "Construction Details" section.

Areas designated for grading to a uniform surface will have all stumps, root clusters, and roots larger than 1 inch in diameter grubbed to a depth of at least 1 foot below the subgrade elevation, unless otherwise specified in the "Construction Details" section.

Stripping—Undesirable material such as large stones, rubbish, and soil high in organic matter shall be removed from areas where the materials may interfere with the intended use of the area.

Waste material shall be placed, spread, leveled, or shaped as shown on the drawings or as specified in the "Construction Details" section.

Disposal—All materials removed from cleared or grubbed areas shall be burned, buried, or piled at locations shown on the drawings or as directed by the inspector. Burning shall comply with all state and local policies pertaining to open burning.

**4. Excavation**

All excavations shall conform to the lines, grades, and elevations shown on the drawings or as staked in the field.

**5. Earthfill**

Foundations for earthfill shall be stripped to remove vegetation and other unsuitable materials. Fill materials shall be obtained from required excavations and/or designated borrow areas. Cuts and fills shall be balanced to the greatest extent possible. Fill materials shall contain no sod, brush, roots, or other perishable materials. Rock particles larger than the maximum size specified shall be removed prior to compaction of the fill.

The earthfill materials shall be placed in nearly horizontal layers not exceeding 9 inches before compaction or as shown on the drawings. Materials placed by dumping in piles or windrows shall be spread uniformly to not more than the specified thickness before being compacted.

During placement and compaction of earthfill and earth backfill, the moisture content of the material being placed shall be sufficiently moist to prevent dusty conditions. The material will also be sufficiently dry to be workable (without excessive rutting of the compacted surface by the earthmoving equipment). Tracks

from the earthmoving equipment should not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the compacted fill layer depth. The top surface of the preceding layer of fill shall have adequate moisture to permit suitable bonding with the next layer of fill prior to the placement of additional fill.

Machine compaction shall be accomplished by the controlled movement of hauling and spreading equipment over the fill area. Every point on the surface of each lift shall be traversed by not less than 1 tread track of the equipment.

The completed work shall conform to the lines, grades, and elevations shown on the drawings or as staked in the field.

## **6. Vegetation**

A protective cover of vegetation shall be established on all exposed surfaces of earthfill and excavated areas. Seedbed preparation, seeding, fertilizing, mulching, or other vegetation shall be as specified in the "Construction Details" section.

## **7. Measurement**

The measurement will be as shown on the drawings or as specified in the "Construction Details" section.

## **8. Construction Details**