

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
SUBSURFACE DRAIN**

CODE 606

Name _____
Legal Desc. _____

Ident. No. _____
County _____

A properly operated and maintained subsurface drain is an asset to your property. This practice was designed and installed to remove or distribute excess soil water or to remove salts and other contaminants from the soil profile. 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.

General Recommendations

- Keep junction boxes, drops, control gates, or other appurtenances clean and free of materials that can reduce the flow.
- Repair leaks and broken or crushed lines to ensure proper functioning of the lines.
- Check pipe outlet and animal guards to ensure proper functioning of the drainage system. Repair any eroded areas at the pipe outlet.

- Keep adequate backfill over the conduit.
- Consult the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) concerning wetland compliance issues before installing additional drainage or modifying the existing drain system.
- Protect junction boxes, drops, control gates, or other appurtenances that could be damaged during freezing conditions by covering or other winterizing them.

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).