

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
SURFACE DRAIN, MAIN OR LATERAL**

CODE 608

Name _____

Ident. No. _____

Legal Desc. _____

County _____

A properly operated and maintained drainage ditch is an asset to your property. This practice was designed and installed to collect and convey excess surface or subsurface water. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 15 years. The life of this installation can be ensured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

- Immediately remove sediment deposits, obstructions, or blockage of the drainage system including channels and structures.
- Maintain installed fences to control livestock access when adjacent fields are used for grazing.
- Immediately repair any damage due to vehicles or livestock.

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.

Specific Recommendations

A major storm event is any rainfall that exceeds _____ inches for _____ County.

General Recommendations

- Inspect the drainage ditches and channels at least annually and after any major storm events.
- Maintain the constructed cross section and gradient by controlling channel bank erosion and sloughing with appropriate vegetation. Maintain vegetation by the use of herbicides and/or mowing.

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).