

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN FOR
CONSTRUCTED WETLAND**

CODE 656

Name _____
Legal Desc. _____

Ident. No. _____
County _____

A properly operated and maintained constructed wetland is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed for treatment of wastewater and contaminated runoff from agricultural processing, livestock, and aquaculture facilities or for improving the quality for stormwater runoff or other water flows lacking specific water quality discharge criteria.

The estimated life span of this installation is at least 15 years. The life of this installation can be assured 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

- Maintain water level in wetland cells that is appropriate for vegetation
- Control flow to wetland according to water budget
- Monitor wetland performance
- Sample effluent for nutrients prior to utilization
- Perform surveillance of inlet and outlet structures and flows
- Repair embankments

- Control the density of desirable vegetation
- Remove invasive and/or non-native species that could be a problem in native habitats
- Repair fences or other ancillary features
- Replace wetland plants
- Repair pipelines and spillways
- Control unwanted animals (varmints) or vectors (mosquitoes)
- Inspect the facility periodically to ensure proper operation - The inspection should include (but is not limited to) the following:
 - Cracks in the concrete pad and sump
 - Sealer on the interior surfaces

Specific Recommendations for This Project

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)