APPENDIX 11

Subsurface Drainage

DEFINITION: A conduit, such as corrugated plastic tubing, tile, or pipe, installed beneath the ground surface to collect and/or convey drainage water. Applicable Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) conservation practice standard: Code 606.

PURPOSE: To improve the soil environment for vegetative growth, reduce erosion, and improve water quality by:

1. Regulating water table and ground water flows.
2. Intercepting and preventing water movement into a wet area.
3. Serving as an outlet for other subsurface drains.

CRITERIA:

1. Subsurface drains authorized by this GP must be constructed within a grassed waterway and meet requirements of Kansas Minimal Effect Exemption: KS-2 Terrace System Upgrade from Grassed Waterway/Vegetated Outlet to a Shaped Grassed Waterway with Subsurface Drainage Worksheet.
2. Disturbed areas must be revegetated with grasses recommended by the local NRCS office, excluding Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) and other exotic or invasive species, as soon as practicable.
3. Subsurface drains must discharge into an underground outlet or onto an area either stabilized with vegetation (i.e., grassed waterway, critical area planting, buffer vegetation), a vegetative splash pad as illustrated in the attachments for the Kansas Minimal Effect Exemptions, or other similar area approved by NRCS.
4. Subsurface drains **may not** discharge directly into a stream.
5. Trench excavation material may be temporarily side cast in waters of the United States, for up to 3 months, provided the material is not placed in such a manner that it is dispersed by flows, currents, or other events.
6. Subsurface drain rehabilitation/maintenance associated with the rehabilitation/maintenance of a grassed waterway is authorized by this GP.
7. This practice is limited to existing grassed waterways and other stable outlets built before December 23, 1985.
8. The drainage area must be equal to or less than 120 acres.