

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

**WASTE STORAGE FACILITY
(no.)
CODE 313**

Cooperator: _____ Field Office: _____

SWCD: _____ Field No.: _____

Farm No.: _____ Tract No.: _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

The estimated life span of this practice is **15 years**. The life of this system 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 to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program:

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Inspect system weekly and after major storm events.
- Inspect earthwork for signs of seepage, rodent damage, settlement, misalignment, or erosion and repair as needed.
- Settlement or cracks in earthen sections must be investigated (to determine the cause) and repaired.
- Inspect concrete for accelerated weathering, spalling, settlement, misalignment, or cracks. Repair defects.
- Inspect timber for accelerated weathering, rotting, insect damage, failing fasteners, or cracks. Repair defects.
- Inspect rock riprap for accelerated weathering and displacement. Repair to original grades if necessary.
- Inspect metal surfaces for rust and other damage. Especially inspect sections in contact with earthfill and/or other materials. Repair or replace damaged sections and apply a protective covering.
- Prior to the storage season, empty the storage facility following the design. Apply waste according to the nutrient management plan and do not apply manure on saturated soil or frozen ground. Do not apply waste material immediately after a rain or within 12 hours of forecasted rain unless it can be immediately incorporated into the soil. Do not apply liquid at a rate that exceeds the soil intake rate.

- The facility will be operated according to the plan and in such a way that the design freeboard will not be exceeded.
- Confine travel of vehicles and livestock to designated areas to prevent erosion and enhance vegetation.
- Maintain windbreaks or other visual or odor dispersive methods.
- Poison gases are often heavier than air and may be trapped in closed waste storage structures. Do not allow human entry without safety equipment, including ladders and breathing apparatus. Maintain all lids, grates, and shields on openings to underground or enclosed structures.
- Repair any rodent, burrowing animal, vandalism, vehicle, or livestock damage. Remove debris. Control rodents and insects as necessary.
- Maintain all pumps, agitators, piping, valves, and all other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition following electrical codes and manufacturers' recommendations. Inspect and repair grounding rods, switches, and wiring.
- Make sure all structure drains are functional and soil is not being transported through the drainage system. Screens and/or rodent guards must be maintained and in place.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed.
- Fences, railings, and warning signs must be maintained to provide warning and prevent unauthorized entry.

• Other: _____

