

STATEMENT OF WORK
Mulching (484)
Louisiana

These deliverables apply to this individual practice. For other planned practice deliverables refer to those specific Statements of Work.

DESIGN

Deliverables:

1. Design documents that demonstrate criteria in NRCS Mulching practice standard have been met and are compatible with other planned and applied practices.
 - a. Practice purpose(s) are identified and documented in the assistance notes
 - b. List of required permits to be obtained by the client (**usually not necessary for this practice. It is more likely that the operations requiring mulching as a supporting practice will need permits**)
 - c. Compliance with NRCS national and state utility safety policy (NEM Part 503-Safety, Subpart A - Engineering Activities Affecting Utilities 503.00 through 503.06) (**usually not necessary for this practice. It is more likely that the operations requiring mulching as a supporting practice may require attention for adherence with utility safety policies**)
 - d. Practice standard criteria-related computations and analyses to develop plans and specifications including but not limited to:
 - i. Type of material, thickness/depth, durability
 - ii. Preparatory surface treatment including vegetation measures
 - iii. Application technique by material type
 - iv. Additional requirements to conserve soil moisture, moderate soil temperature, control erosion, suppress weeds, establish vegetative cover, improve soil condition and increase soil fertility
2. Written plans and specifications including sketches and drawings shall be provided to the client that adequately describes the requirements to install the practice and obtain necessary permits. The general specification sheet for the Mulching practice standard (**found in eFOTG**) gives the conservation planner guidance and recommendations for producers and landowners installing mulch. It is not intended to address all situations. **Specific guidance that the conservation planner and producer have agreed upon should be documented in the conservation plan and plan map.**
3. Documentation of needed operation and maintenance should be provided in the conservation plan. At a minimum the plan should list the following O&M requirements (as applicable):
 - a. Mulched areas will be periodically inspected, and mulch shall be reinstalled or repaired as needed to accomplish the intended purpose.
 - b. Evaluate the effectiveness of the mulch (application, amount of cover provided, durability, etc.) and adjust the management or type of mulch to better meet the intended purpose(s).
 - c. Removal or incorporation of mulch materials shall be consistent with the intended purpose and site conditions.
 - d. Operation of equipment near and on the site shall not compromise the intended purpose of the mulch.
 - e. Properly collect and dispose of artificial mulch material after intended use.
 - f. Monitor and control undesirable weeds in mulched areas.

Any guidance that the conservation planner and producer/landowner agree on, outside what is documented in either the assistance notes, conservation plan, or on the plan map, should be labeled accordingly and placed in **part 5 of the 6-part folder**.

INSTALLATION

Deliverables

1. Pre-application conference with client.
 2. Verification that client has obtained required permits.
 3. Staking and layout according to plans and specifications including applicable layout notes.
 4. Application guidance as needed.
 5. Facilitate and implement required design modifications with client and original designer.
 6. Advise client/NRCS on compliance issues with all federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations, and NRCS policies during installation.
 7. Certification that the application process and materials meet design and permit requirements.
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CHECK OUT

Deliverables

1. Records of application.
 - a. Extent of practice units applied
 - b. Actual kinds of surface treatments used and applied
2. Certification that the application meets NRCS standards and specifications and is in compliance with permits.
3. Progress reporting in assistance notes.
4. Photos of the installed practice

REFERENCES

- NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG), Section IV, Conservation Practice Standard – Mulching, 484
- National Agronomy Manual
- NRCS National Environmental Compliance Handbook
- NRCS Cultural Resources Handbook