



*Helping People Help the Land*

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
3001 Coolidge Road, Suite 250  
East Lansing, MI 48823-6321  
(T) 517-324-5270 / (F) 517-324-5171 / [www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.mi.nrcs.usda.gov)

---

May 14, 2009

**TECHNICAL GUIDE**  
**NOTICE #219 (electronic)**

**Purpose:** To transmit information regarding the electronic NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG).

**Effective Date:** This notice is effective upon receipt.

**Notice of Changes:**

**SECTION I: General Resource References**

**Economic Cost Data**

The Economic Information/Guides folder has been updated with a **Cost Estimate** tool. It is an excel spreadsheet for use in developing cost estimates for customers.

The Average Component Costs folder has been updated with construction cost data for use in construction cost estimates. This is an excel file **2009Construction\_Component\_Cost** created by selecting the most commonly used items from the 2009 RS Means Construction Cost Data with values adjusted based on zip codes.

The Conservation Program Contract Economics folder has been updated with a document titled **Payment Schedules**, which explains how to access the payment schedules on the Michigan NRCS website.

Technical questions should be directed to June C. Grabemeyer, Agricultural Economist, at (517) 324-5280.

- More-

DIST: All Holders of the Field Office Technical Guide

## **SECTION II: Natural Resources Information**

### **Cultural Resources Information**

Forms for Documenting Cultural Resources Investigations

The **Environmental Evaluation for Conservation Planning (MI-CPA-15)** has been updated.

The Cultural Resources folder has been updated with a revised Environmental Evaluation Form (MI-CPA-15). It has been converted to MS Excel worksheet.

Question 12 has been modified to incorporate a signature block for TSPs.

There is an additional question under question 10, Migratory Bird Protection, regarding effects on bald and/or golden eagles to account for The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.

Technical questions on the MI-CPA-15 form should be directed to Chris Reidy, State Biologist, at (517) 324-5267.

The **Request for Cultural Resources Review** form has been updated. This document was updated due to changes with the new FY2009 cultural resources contract. Questions on page one about the presence of archaeological sites were removed and a question was added to indicate if the planned work has been obligated under a signed contract. A new section was added on page two for the Cultural Resources Coordinator and Contract Specialist to complete for the financial approval of the review work. Also a digital signature block was added for the Cultural Resources Specialist to complete the reported recommendation for the Area of Potential Effect.

Technical questions should be directed to Melissa Gutierrez, Cultural Resources Coordinator, at (517) 324-3251.

## **SECTION IV: Practice Standards and Specifications**

### **Michigan Conservation Sheets**

The Conservation Sheets have been updated for the following:

Fence (382) (Ft.)

The Fence conservation sheet has an updated design page and the practice certification criteria have been incorporated.

Technical questions should be directed to Betsy Dierberger, Grassland/Forage Specialist, at (517) 324-5265.

The Conservation Sheet, **Mulching for Organic Farming**, has been added for the following:

Mulching (484) (Ac.)

Technical questions should be directed to Jerry Grigar, State Agronomist, at (517) 324-5250.

**Documentation and Certification**

A conservation practice checkout sheet has been developed for the following practice standard:

Nutrient Management (590) (Ac.)

Technical questions should be directed to Ruth Shaffer, Water Quality Specialist, at (517) 324-5239.

Questions regarding eFOTG content management should be directed to Ruth Shaffer, Water Quality Specialist, at (517) 324-5239.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki S. Anderson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

VICKI S. ANDERSON  
State Resource Conservationist