

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN**IRRIGATION PIPELINE
CODE 430**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____ Sec. _____ T. _____ R. _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OVERVIEW

A properly operated and maintained pipeline is an asset to your farm or ranch. The estimated life span of this installation is 20 years. The performance life of this installation can be assured by developing and carrying out an effective operation and maintenance program. Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with NRCS financial and technical assistance. The land user is responsible for proper O&M throughout the life of the practice and as may be required by federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

Operation refers to the act of using the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components which fail.

This practice will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require replacement of operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop an effective operation and maintenance program.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Check to make sure all valves and air vents are set at the proper operating condition providing protection to the pipeline.
- Allow the pipeline to fill gradually when being put into use after shut down or draining. The maximum flow during filling should not exceed a velocity of 1 foot per second

Pipe Diameter	6 inch	8 inch	10 inch	12 inch	15 inch
Fill Rate	90 gpm	160 gpm	245 gpm	350 gpm	550 gpm

- Always slowly open and close or adjust the settings of in-line valves.
- Periodically check and repair all valves, gates and regulators to the system requirements following the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Maintain the design depth of cover over the pipeline.
- Limit traffic over the pipeline to designated sections designed for traffic loads.
- Avoid travel over pipelines by tillage equipment when the soil is saturated.
- Avoid any subsoiling operation that may disturb the pipeline.

