

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

OBSTRUCTION REMOVAL

(Ac.)

CODE 500

DEFINITION

Removal and disposal of unwanted, unsightly or hazardous buildings, structures, vegetation, landscape features, and other materials.

PURPOSE

To safely remove and dispose of unwanted obstructions and materials in order to apply conservation practices or facilitate planned use of abandoned mine lands, farms, ranches, construction sites, and recreation areas.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

On land where existing obstructions interfere with planned use and development.

CRITERIA

Obstruction removal shall be planned, designed, and carried out to meet all NEPA requirements and federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

An inspection of the obstruction removal area for hazardous material shall be completed and disposal shall meet federal, state and local laws and regulations.

Rock piles, boulders, stones, fences, hedgerows, abandoned buildings and structures, trash, and similar obstructions that would interfere with planned use and development shall be removed. All debris such as broken concrete and masonry, structural steel and wood, stones, stumps, slash, and sterile or toxic soil shall be

disposed of so that they will not impede subsequent work or cause damage to offsite or other areas.

Disposal shall be by burning, burying, or removing to an approved landfill in an environmentally acceptable manner.

All required gully shaping shall be performed to specified dimensions and grades. Fills shall be compacted as appropriate. The cover over buried materials shall be a minimum of 3 feet or designed to be adequate for the planned use, treatment, and vegetation.

All disturbed areas that are seeded to permanent vegetation shall be established according to the FOTG Critical Area Planting (342) practice standard.

Erosion shall be controlled with appropriate erosion control practices on disturbed areas.

CONSIDERATIONS

Placing topsoil on the disturbed areas as necessary to promote permanent vegetation establishment should be considered.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications shall be prepared in accordance with the criteria of this standard and shall describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended use.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

An operation and maintenance plan shall be prepared for this practice which may include filling excessive settlement areas, repair excessive erosion and maintaining a vegetative cover on the disturbed area.

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

**NE-T.G. Notice 515
Section IV
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