

Water Quality Enhancement Activity – SQL03 – Drainage Water Management for Nutrient, Pathogen, or Pesticide Reduction



Drainage Water Management for Nutrient, Pathogen or Pesticide Reduction

This enhancement consists of managing soil and/or surface water levels during the non-cropping season in order to reduce the loss of nutrients, pathogens, or/and pesticides from a crop field through drainage systems and into downstream receiving waters. This enhancement may also be utilized to reduce the oxidation of organic matter in the soil and/or reduce wind erosion or particulate matter (dust) emissions.

Land Use Applicability

This enhancement is applicable to cropland.

Benefits

This enhancement holds nutrients in the soil, reduces pathogens leaving the field, and/or reduces pesticides leaving the field when crops are not actively growing. Additional benefits may include reduction of the oxidation of organic matter and/or reduced wind erosion or particulate matter (dust) emissions.

Criteria for Nutrient, Pathogen, or Pesticide Reduction

- Implementation of this enhancement requires that the client must comply with the requirements of the Conservation Practice Standard, Drainage Water Management (554);
- Operate water control structures/devices to hold water surface elevations no more than 6 inches **below** the ground surface on the affected area for a minimum of 90 days per year;
- This enhancement only applies to the areas of cropland where water levels can be effectively maintained at the desired elevations.

Documentation Requirements for Nutrient, Pathogen, or Pesticide Reduction

- List of fields where this enhancement was utilized, field size, and equipment installed and used.
- Dates when fields were flooded and water removed from fields.
- Photo documentation of saturated soil areas. Photos must be dated and labeled with field number.



United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service

NE-SQL03

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State Criteria

- Client must comply with the requirements of Practice Standard – Drainage Water Management (554).
- Water control structures / devices must be operated to hold water surface elevation no more than 6 inches below the ground surface on the affected area for a minimum of 90 days per year.

Documentation Requirements

1. A map for each treatment area indicating the location of the activities.
2. Provide information for type of equipment installed and installation date (Table 1).
3. Photo documentation of saturated soil areas. Photos must be dated and labeled with field number.
4. Provide information on all flooding events (Table 2).

TABLE 1					
Tract	Field	Acres	Equipment Installed	Date Equipment Installed (m/d/yr)	List other Equipment Used

TABLE 2				
Tract	Field	Acres	Date(s) Field Flooded (m/d/yr)	Date(s) Water Removed (m/d/yr)

I certify that the following information meets specifications and has been provided to NRCS:

1. Written documentation of the activity performed per documentation requirements.
2. Copies of dated receipts for equipment or services purchased.

I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain all necessary permits and to comply with all laws, regulations and ordinances pertaining to the application of these activities.

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____