

O&M Plan prepared for:
Date:

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN **KARST SINKHOLE TREATMENT-VEGETATED BUFFER**

Vegetated buffers for treatment of karst sinkholes reduces potential contamination of groundwater resources. The estimated life span of the practice is at least 10 years. The life of this conservation practice can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good inspection and maintenance program including the following requirements:

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Inspection and Maintenance

- Inspect buffer area frequently for proper functioning.
- Mow and harvest buffer area vegetation at least annually to maintain a dense growth of desirable species.
- Maintain fencing installed around the buffer area to exclude people and livestock.
- Do not apply nutrients, herbicides, pesticides, and animal waste within the established buffer area. Use only mechanical treatments for weed control.
- Inspect for changes in surface water flow to the sinkhole. Inspect practices installed to divert or control surface water.
- Inspect the sinkhole area for signs of enlargement. When evident, contact and engineer or geologist experienced in treatment of karst features.