



**345 - Residue and Tillage Management  
Reduced Till  
Implementation Requirements**

**The Practice Purpose(s): (check all that apply)**

- Reduce sheet rill and water erosion.
- Reduce tillage induced particulate emissions
- Maintain or increase soil quality and organic matter content.
- Reduce energy use.
- Increase plant-available moisture.

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**For the purpose of Reducing Sheet/Rill Erosion**

Attach a RUSLE2 Profile printout or a WEPS printout that displays:

1. Planned crop(s)
2. Specify the type of equipment for Reduce Till for each crop
3. At a minimum specifies the planned residue amounts for: (1) amount of randomly distributed surface residue needed (2) time of year the residue needs to be present in field and (3) the amount of surface soil disturbance allow.
4. Calculations will account for the effects of other practices in the management system.
5. The Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) and Soil Condition Index (SCI)

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**For the Purpose of Reduce Tillage-Induced Particulate Emissions**

Reduce or modify tillage operations that create dust, especially during critical air quality periods. Adopt tillage practices that reduce particulate emissions.

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**For the Purpose of Maintain or Improve Soil Quality and Organic Matter**

Ensure that an evaluation of the cropping system using the current approved soil conditioning index

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**For the Purpose of Increase Plant-Available Moisture**

**Reducing Evaporation from the Soil Surface** - Maintain a minimum 60 percent surface residue cover throughout the year.

**Trapping Snow** - Fall tillage operation will leave the crop stubble in an upright position.

Maintain a crop stubble height during the time significant snowfall is expected to occur:

- at least 10 inches for crops with a row spacing of less than 15 inches;
- at least 15 inches for crops with a row spacing of 15 inches or greater

Maintain these heights over at least 50% of the field.

Conduct fall tillage operations as close as possible to perpendicular to the direction of prevailing winds during the time that significant snowfall is expected to occur.

(SCI) procedure results in zero or higher.

Fall field operations that disturb residue shall be done as close to perpendicular as possible to the direction of prevailing winds during the time that significant snowfall is expected to occur.

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**For the Purpose of Reduce Energy Use**

Reduce the total energy consumption associated with field operations by at least 25% compared to the benchmark condition. Use the current approved NRCS tool for determining energy use to document energy use reductions.

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**Operation and Maintenance:**

Evaluate/measure the crop residues cover and orientation after each crop to ensure the planned amounts and orientation are being achieved. Adjust management as needed to either plan a new residue amount and orientation or adjust the planting and/or harvesting equipment.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**RUSLE2 and/or**

**WEPS Printouts**