United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS

Natural Resources Conservation Service
The Galleries of Syracuse
441 S. Salina Street
Syracuse, New York 13202-2450

September 1, 2010

NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES – NEW YORK

NOTICE - 134

This notice transmits changes in the eFOTG and instructions for filing Conservation Practice Standards. For offices retaining a hardcopy of the National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP) file this notice in numerical order in the front of the NHCP. File the practice standards in alphabetical order.

Standards *deleted*	NO.	DATE	New York Standards *added*	NO.	DATE
Aquaculture Ponds	397	3/2003	Aquaculture Ponds	397	9/2010
Obstruction Removal	500	4/2002	Obstruction Removal	500	9/2010
Pasture and Hay Planting	512	9/2003	Forage and Biomass Planting	512	9/2010
Pumping Plant	533	7/2002	Pumping Plant	533	9/2010
Recreation Trail and Walkway	568	11/2002	Trail and Walkway	568	9/2010
Pest Management	595	3/2001	Pest Management	595	9/2010
Vegetative Barrier	601	10/2003	Vegetative Barrier	601	9/2010
Herbaceous Wind Barriers	603	10/2003	Herbaceous Wind Barriers	603	9/2010
Forest Trails and Landings	655	1/2006	Forest Trails and Landings	655	9/2010

The New York Conservation Practice Standards Committee, in consultation with partner agencies including the New York State (NYS) - Soil and Water Conservation Committee of the Department of Agriculture and Markets, NYS-Department of Environmental Conservation, Cornell University, and others has developed New York Conservation Practice Standards. These practice standards have been edited for use in New York to meet local natural resources conditions.

Astor F. Boozer
State Conservationist

Distribution: All Office
Attachments

Changes made by the New York State Standards Committee.

Aquaculture Ponds (Code 397) – The revised Conservation Practice Standards 397 has expanded Definition and Purpose sections. The Considerations and Specifications sections are more focused in their scope.
"Considerations" added the statement "quality of downstream flow"
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment Control Statement.

Forage and Biomass Planting (Code 512) – The name was changed from Pasture and Hay Planting to Forage and Biomass Planting in recognition of similarities among plant species use for this purpose. Production of feedstock for biofuel production was added as a purpose. The practice remains applicable to all lands where appropriate, but does not include establishment of annually planted food, fiber, or oilseed crops. Additional Considerations have been incorporated. Plans and Specifications now identify specific elements that are to be addressed in the plan.
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment Control Statement.

Forest Trails and Landings (Code 655) – The changes made to the document include the addition of an important Criteria on the re-use of trails in future management activities "designated skid trails" and additional clarification of environmental mitigation measures.
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment Control Statement.

Herbaceous Wind Barriers (Code 603) – This revision adds considerations for: beneficial insects and pollinators; and sequestering of carbon, native plant materials, invasive species, and micro-environment for plant growth. Also, this revision moves "food and cover for wildlife" from the "Purpose" section to "Considerations," adds "tolerance to soil deposition" as a criterion under "Vegetation," expands "Conditions where Practice Applies" to include lands where forages are grown, removes instruction statements for preparation of State standards, adds requirements in "Plans and Specifications," and updates barrier criteria to include the most current technology and references.
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment Control Statement.

Integrated Pest Management (Code 595) – The practice was revised to include specific NRCS Integrated Pest Management (IPM) risk reduction techniques to address identified hazards related to cultural, biological, and chemical pest suppression strategies. A technical note has been developed to support the implementation of the NRCS IPM mitigation techniques. The name of the standard was changed to reflect the IPM approach to reduce the risks/hazards related to pest prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression activities.
"Consideration" added NY Pesticide Score Card reference and O&M statement

Obstruction Removal (Code 500) – The definition was edited to add "works of improvement" and "debris," while "landscape features" was eliminated. To the conditions where practice applies, two statements were added: "public safety and infrastructure" and "does not apply to aquatic environments." The Criteria section was completely re-written to add more detail, including safety and environmental concerns, and more detail for stabilization of the site after removal work. Considerations were added related to recycling, dust suppression, erosion and sediment control, working in environmentally sensitive areas, and safety and wildlife habitat.

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Minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added; minimum requirements for O&M plans were added; and additional references were added.
"Considerations" added the statement where burial is permitted.
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment Control Statement.

Pumping Plant (Code 533) – The definition was expanded to identify pumping plant components; purposes were expanded to address various resource concerns; new criteria was added for Variable Frequency Drives, Photovoltaic Panels, Windmills, and Hydraulic Rams; additional criteria was provided, corresponding to the newly expanded purposes.

Vegetative Barrier (Code 601) – The primary revision included the addition to use the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation, Version 2 for the design and spacing of the vegetative barriers. Other revisions included edits to improve clarity.
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment Control Statement.

Trails and Walkways (Code 568) - The title was changed from Recreation Trail and Walkway. The definition changed to include farm workers, construction/maintenance access, and small walk-behind equipment. The purpose changed to include agricultural and construction/maintenance purposes. Conditions where the practice applies was changed to cover recreational, agricultural, and non-agricultural installations. Criteria changed to include more detailed requirements for all land uses and information was added on accessibility of public access trails. Considerations were added on maximum grades, drainage issues, parking issues, scenic values, fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, and wind erosion. Minimum requirements for plan and specification content were added. Minimum requirements for O&M plans were added and additional references were added
Added the New York Erosion and Sediment control Statement.