

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
Watering Facility
Code 614

Landowner/Operator	Farm/Tract No.
Job Location	Area
Field Office	County
Prepared By	Date

Inspections and maintenance are required to achieve the intended function, benefits, and life of the practice. The landowner/operator is responsible to establish and implement an inspection and maintenance program. Items to inspect and maintain during the 10-year design life of the practice include, but are not limited to, the following:

General Recommendations:

- Provide periodic inspections, especially immediately following storms with a 10-year or greater return frequency to identify repair and maintenance needs.
- Periodically check the watering facility for contamination. Algae and iron sludge accumulation should be addressed in areas with water quality that is known to cause problems. Chemicals such as copper sulfate and chlorine can be recommended as needed, as long as local rules and regulations are followed.
- Inspect tanks, troughs, piping and valves for leaks or damage in the fall and spring. Replace damaged or missing parts.
- Perform routine maintenance of all mechanical components in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
- Replace stone or gravel adjacent to the troughs and frost free hydrants as necessary.
- Empty and remove the water tanks, valves and hoses in the fall to prevent damage.
- Check to ensure the outlet pipe is freely operating and not causing erosion problems.
- Protect the components from damage by farm equipment and livestock. Inspect and maintain fences that are placed to control livestock access to the watering facility.

Special Considerations:

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Optional items to consider:

- Prior to retrofitting any electrically powered irrigation equipment, electrical service must be disconnected and the absence of stray electrical current verified.
- Check the tanks and pipes during cold weather for ice problems, as appropriate.
- Drain and/or provide for cold weather operation of the watering facility.
- If dead rodents in the watering tanks become a problem, consider installing a floating bird ramp so that these rodents may exit the watering tank.

Signatures:

Reviewed By _____ Date _____
Landowner/Producer

Reviewed By _____ Date _____
Landowner/Producer