



325 – High Tunnel System Implementation Requirements

Producer \_\_\_\_\_

Project or Contract \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tract Number \_\_\_\_\_

Practice Location Map

(Showing detailed aerial view of where practice is to be installed on farm/site, showing all major components, stationing, relative location to any landmarks, and survey benchmarks)

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Dig Safely New York

Contact at least two (2) full working days, but no more than 10 working days, before beginning your project.

1-800-962-7962 or 811
New York City / Long Island: 1-800-272-4480

Description of work

Three horizontal lines for describing the work.

NRCS Review Only

Designed By: \_\_\_\_\_  JAA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Checked By: \_\_\_\_\_  JAA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  JAA

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**325 – High Tunnel System  
Implementation Requirements**

**Practice Purpose(s)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Improving Plant Health and Vigor

**Materials List**

\_\_\_\_\_ High Tunnel Kit. Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved by NRCS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Kit Purchased (after approval): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Polyethylene Cover – 6mm minimum, UV resistant. Size: \_\_\_\_\_

**Site Information**

Soil Symbol: \_\_\_\_\_ Slope (%): \_\_\_\_\_ Drainage Class: \_\_\_\_\_

**Supporting Practices Required for Conservation Management System from  
Conservation Plan (list required Practices). Attach**

Code	Practice

## **325 – High Tunnel System Implementation Requirements**

### **Construction**

1. Contact NRCS prior to construction, when work is completed, and prior to making any changes to the planned installation.
2. Obtain any required permits.
3. Contact Dig Safely NY – 811, at least 2 working days in advance of construction, for location of underground utilities.
4. Prepare site according to manufacturer's instructions.
5. Orient tunnel in a direction that provides acceptable sunlight exposure for the crops to be grown; and good ventilation by the prevailing wind.
6. The site location must have access to enough clean irrigation water to meet your crop needs and allow you to carry out normal farming operations without damaging the structure.
7. Lay out construction location according to site plan.
8. Assemble high tunnel structure according to manufacturer's instructions.
9. Install supporting practices as required, according to implementation requirements provided.
10. The site must be relatively level and well drained, so the tunnel can be installed without grading or water ponding between the rows.

### **Site Preparation and Additional Installation Information**

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### **Operation and Maintenance**

Inspections and maintenance are required to achieve the intended function, benefits, and life of the conservation system. The landowner/operator is responsible to establish and implement an inspection and maintenance program. Items to inspect and maintain during the 4 year design life of the practice include, but are not limited to, the following:

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### **Operation and Maintenance Requirements:**

1. Periodically inspect structure and cover for damage. Reinstall or repair promptly.
2. Follow manufacturer's instructions for operation and maintenance of the high tunnel structure.
3. Avoid damage to structure and cover from equipment operated in and around the seasonal high tunnel.
4. Provide periodic inspections, especially immediately following rain, snow and wind.
5. Inspect runoff control measures after every significant rainfall event. Repair promptly.
6. Remove and store high tunnel cover at the end of each growing season if required by the manufacturer's warranty and / or during severe weather events to prevent structural damage. Replace cover prior to use in the spring. Plan for proper disposal of the cover at the end of its useful life.
7. Producer is responsible for immediate replacement of any failed system components or in the event of an entire system failure, replacement of the entire High Tunnel System.
8. Immediately repair or replace any damaged plastic covering. All replacement or repair covering must meet original cover specifications (6 mil or greater polyethylene, UV resistant).
9. Check anchoring devices to insure High Tunnel is secure to ground at all times. If High Tunnel is moved, reset anchors based on original manufacturer's recommendations.
10. Maintain areas immediately adjacent to High Tunnel System in adequate permanent vegetative cover for erosion control and to promote infiltration of runoff. Re-seed and mow as needed. Avoid/control vegetation that may harbor pests that could impact High Tunnel crop(s).
11. Inspect all water control structures installed to convey water safely away from High Tunnel System. Keep all structures free of debris and free flowing.
12. Repair and stabilize any gullies or unstable areas that may develop as a result of runoff from the High Tunnel System during extreme runoff events.
13. Remove snow accumulations from the High Tunnel. Keep areas adjacent to the system free from excessive snow accumulation.
14. Manage crops and soils within the High Tunnel System according to the Nutrient Management, Pest Management, Irrigation Water Management, and Crop Rotation requirements as specified in the conservation plan.
15. Monitor soil conditions with appropriate soil testing. Reduced leaching potential of soils under a High Tunnel System may lead to soil chemical imbalances. Remove High Tunnel

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cover to allow leaching or move to new ground to correct any soil chemical imbalance.

**Additional Information**

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**Check Out**

High Tunnel Structure As-Built: Length \_\_\_\_\_ ft. Width \_\_\_\_\_ ft. Height \_\_\_\_\_ ft.

\_\_\_\_\_ Square feet. Mark As-Built location on plan map.

\_\_\_ Endwalls

\_\_\_ Anchors, per manufacturer's recommendations

\_\_\_ Minimum of 3 feet of vegetative cover installed

\_\_\_ Irrigation source and conveyance

**Remarks**

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**Approval**

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Job Approval Authority

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Producer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT:**

I hereby certify that this practice has been installed in accordance with NRCS standards and specifications.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Job Approval Authority

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date