

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS**

GRASSED WATERWAY

(Ac.)

CODE 412

SCOPE

The work shall consist of furnishing all materials and equipment necessary for completing all construction operations for shaping the grassed waterway channel, placing the excavated material, and implementing the necessary vegetative establishment measures, as specified.

Construction operations shall be carried out in such a manner that erosion and air and water pollution are minimized and held within legal limits. State and local laws concerning pollution abatement must be followed. The completed job shall present a workmanlike finish and shall conform to the lines, grades, and elevations shown in the drawings and as staked in the field.

All operations shall be carried out in a safe and skillful manner. Safety and health regulations shall be observed and appropriate safety measures used.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE UTILITIES

Utilities are defined to be public or private, overhead and underground power or communication lines, and any pipelines. The landowner/operator/contractor shall conduct their own search and discovery for utilities in order to lessen or avoid potential damages, injuries or loss of life. Prior to construction, the landowner/operator should complete an OK-ENG-45 UTILITIES INVENTORY FORM to document known utilities in order to comply with State law prior to any ground disturbance and return it to a USDA-NRCS representative.

QUALITY CONTROL

Quality Control of all materials and construction procedures is the responsibility of the landowner/operator and contractor. NRCS will make periodic review(s) of the work for the benefit of the agency which will include the final construction check.

LOCATION

The location of the grassed waterway shall be as shown on furnished drawings or as staked in the field.

SITE PREPARATION

All trees, stumps, brush, and other objectionable material that will interfere with construction or proper functioning of the grassed waterway shall be removed from the site and disposed of in a manner consistent with environmental concerns and proper functioning of the grassed waterway..

MATERIALS

Excavated material will be used to construct grassed waterway channel, as specified, and shall be free of objectionable materials such as brush, roots, and rock particles that endanger the performance of the grassed waterway.

EARTHWORK

The grassed waterway shall be shaped to the grade and dimensions shown on the plans, specified on furnished drawings, or as staked in the field. Topsoil shall be stockpiled and re-spread where necessary to provide a seedbed for the vegetation. Grassed waterways designed as trapezoidal channel grassed waterways shall be constructed with a flat bottom cross-section that does not vary by more or less than 0.4 feet at any point along the bottom.

Spoil material shall be spread where it will not interfere with flow into the grassed waterway and shaped in such a manner that it will not unduly interfere with farming operations. When the spoil ridges occupy cropland and are to be used as cropland, the slope of the ridge shall be flat enough to facilitate farming operations.

If necessary, excess water shall be diverted away from the grassed waterway until vegetation is established. The vegetation should be well established before large flows are permitted in the channel. After the vegetation has been established, any protective works shall be removed, and the disturbed areas that are not to be farmed shall be seeded to permanent vegetation.

VEGETATION

Seedbed preparation; seeding dates, mixtures, and rates; stabilizing measures; mulching; fertilizer; and lime requirements shall be specified for each area and shall comply with all applicable Oklahoma NRCS Conservation Practice Standards and Specifications in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide and the Oklahoma Plant Materials Technical Note 21. Vegetation must be in accordance with the recommendations documented in the Vegetative Data Worksheet (OK-ECS-4) for the given field location and conservation plan, or according to specifications developed for the project.

Schedule construction of grassed waterways to coincide with the proper seeding/sprigging season. The construction of all grassed waterways shall start no more than 30 days before the beginning of the proper seeding/sprigging season. The construction of all grassed waterways shall be complete at least 15 days before the end of the proper seeding/sprigging season. If circumstances beyond the control of the producer/landowner (i.e. weather) prevent the construction of the grassed waterway to coincide with the proper seeding/sprigging season, as described previously, then protective action such as cover crop and/or mulch shall be implemented until the correct time for the next proper seeding/sprigging season.

ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Refer to the appropriate approved design plans for site specific additional items of work and construction details.