



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Suite 340, One Credit Union Place  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-2993  
Phone: (717) 237-2200  
Fax: (717) 237-2238

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SUBJECT: Technical Guide Notice 141

DATE: December 3, 2009

TO: All Holders of the PA Technical Guide

FILE CODE: 450-11

**Purpose:**

*To update the following ecological sciences practice Standards and Statements of Work to the current version.*

*The following national practices have been NEWLY adopted for use in Pennsylvania with no supplemental requirements added.*

**Biology and Forestry Discipline Leads:**

Firebreak (394)

Multi-Story Cropping (379)

Restoration and Management of Rare and Declining Habitats (643)

Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment (654)

Shallow Water Development and Management (646)

*The following Pennsylvania practices have been reviewed and adopted in accordance with new national criteria with no supplemental requirements added.*

**Biology and Forestry Discipline Leads:**

Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490) (Formerly Forest Site Preparation)

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

**Agronomy Discipline Lead:**

Conservation Cover (327)

Contour Buffer Strips (332)

Contour Farming (330)

Deep Tillage (324)

Filter Strip (393)

Land Reclamation, Toxic Discharge Control (455)

Mulching (484)

Stripcropping - Contour (585)

Land Reclamation, Landslide Treatment (453)

Critical Area Planting (342)

*The following Pennsylvania practices and support materials have been reviewed and adopted in accordance with new national criteria and revised to include Pennsylvania specific technology.*

**Grazing Land Specialists Discipline Lead**

Fence (382) (Standard, Specification, Instructions for Use, Design and Check Data, & SOW)

Prescribed Grazing (528) (Standard, SOW)

Access Control (472) (name change only)



*The following Pennsylvania practices and support materials have been reviewed and removed from the PA eFOTG.*

Biology and Forestry Discipline Leads:  
Fishpond Management (399)

*The Agriculture Applied Climate Information System (AgACIS) module link was added to PA eFOTG under Section II, B. "Climatic Data."*

The AgACIS module in FOTG provides the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) access to historical and real-time daily climate data from the National Weather Service (NWS) and Cooperative Observer Program (COOP). AgACIS also provides climate interpretations for wetlands determinations, soil surveys, and engineering applications.

**Background:**

Conservation Practice Standards are periodically revised by NHQ and States may supplement their requirements within one year of revision.

**Access Instructions:**

The Pennsylvania eFOTG can be accessed at the following web address and then selecting the appropriate county. [http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/efotg\\_locator.aspx?map=PA](http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map=PA)

The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program link is found by selecting Section II, and opening the folder titled D. Special Environmental Concerns.

The Pennsylvania eFOTG Section Table of Contents can be accessed *directly* at the following:

Section II Natural Resources Information  
<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12438>

Section IV Conservation Practices and Specifications  
<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12487>

The official version of the FOTG is what appears in Pennsylvania's eFOTG.

/s/ CRAIG R. DERICKSON

CRAIG R. DERICKSON  
State Conservationist