

**U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
SOUTH CAROLINA**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE WORKSHEET
WATERING FACILITY
CODE 614**

Landowner/Operator_____

Job Location_____

County_____ SCD_____ Farm/Tract No._____

Referral No._____ Prepared By_____ Date_____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained livestock water facility is an asset to the farm or ranch. This facility includes a delivery pipeline and a trough and was designed and installed to provide water for livestock. Estimated life span for this installation is at least 10 years. Life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

Failure to Operate and Maintain this system could result in actions to reclaim cost share and/or loss of any future financial or technical assistance.

This practice will require performance of periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. A good operation and maintenance program includes:

- ⇒ Check all above ground connections, valves, gates, rodent guards, inlets and outlets to make sure they are functioning properly. Check troughs and pipelines for leaks or cracks and repair or replace immediately, if necessary
- ⇒ Make certain the area adjacent to the trough is well protected with gravel, paving, or good cover. Be sure that the outlet pipe has a free outlet and is not causing any serious erosion problems.
- ⇒ Check periodically to see if debris has fallen into the trough which may restrict inflow or planned functions of the outflow system.
- ⇒ Clean the entire system periodically and remove moss, algae growth, and/or sludge. Chemicals such as copper sulfate and chlorine can be used to prevent moss and algae growth. Local rules and regulations are to be followed when recommending chemicals making sure, any used are safe for animals.
- ⇒ Maintain, where necessary, coverings and insulation to prevent-damage by freezing.
- ⇒ Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control growth.

