

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN  
PIPELINE  
CODE 516**

Landowner/Operator \_\_\_\_\_

Job Location \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

Operation and maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with the Natural Resources Conservation Service assistance. The land user is responsible for proper O&M throughout the life of the practice and as may be required by federal, state, or local laws or regulations.

Operation refers to operation of the practice in compliance with all laws, regulations, ordinances, and easements; and in such a manner that will result in the least adverse impact on the environment and will permit the practice to serve the purpose for which it was installed. Maintenance includes work to prevent deterioration of the practice, repairing damage, or replacing components which fail.

Necessary operation and maintenance items for this practice include:

- Check to make sure all valves and air vents are set at the proper operating condition so they may provide protection to the pipeline.
- Maintain the design depth of cover over the pipeline and backfill around structures.
- Limit traffic over shallow buried pipelines to designated sections that were designed for traffic loads. Avoid travel over shallow buried pipelines by tillage equipment when the soil is saturated; avoid any subsoiling operation that may disturb the pipeline.
- Where sacrificial anodes are used for cathodic protection, check their condition on a regular basis as outlined below or in the design. Repair or replace as necessary.
- Check exterior coatings on above-ground and on-ground pipeline installations. Repair any damage immediately.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing or planned grazing may also be needed to control height.
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Drain the system and components as needed in areas that are subject to freezing. If parts of the system cannot be drained, an antifreeze solution may be added.
- Repair any rodent, burrowing animal, vandalism, vehicle, or livestock damage.

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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