

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE  
KARST SINKHOLE TREATMENT  
CODE 527**

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

Practice Location \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Tract No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) is necessary for all conservation practices and is required for all practices installed with NRCS assistance, and is required to achieve the intended function, benefits, and life of the practice. The landowner/operator is responsible to establish and implement an inspection and maintenance program. Items to inspect and maintain during the 10-year design life of the practice include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Inspect the sinkhole treatment area regularly, especially after heavy rains, and at least once annually to identify repair and maintenance needs. Sinkhole treatments will need periodic maintenance throughout the lifespan.
2. Maintain the sinkhole treatment area in good condition, which includes periodic grading and the addition of stone or other surface material when necessary. Prevent surface ponding by localized grading or addition of stone/material to remove depressions. Road base rock or soil may be used to fill minor depressions where settlement occurs.
3. The surface of the sinkhole treatment may be eroded away during flooding. This soil/stone must be replaced to prevent ponding.
4. Replace to original grades with similar materials as necessary.
5. The fencing component should be checked on a regular basis. Any fencing that has been damaged should be repaired immediately.
6. Maintain vegetated areas in adequate cover. Reseed and mow as needed.
7. Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to earth fills fences.

Signatures

Landowner/Operator: \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_