

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**  
**CONSERVATION PRACTICE GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS**  
**PRECISION LAND FORMING**

(acre)

**CODE 462**

**1. Scope**

*Work shall consist of reshaping the land surface to a planned grade.*

**2. Location**

*The planned location of the area to be land formed shall be as shown on furnished drawings or as staked in the field.*

**3. Public and private utilities**

*Utilities are defined to be overhead and underground power or communication lines, and pipelines. All utilities discovered to be in the work area are shown on the drawings or sketches. However, the absence of indicators on the drawings or sketches does not assure the nonexistence of utilities in the work area. The contractor is alerted to conduct his/her own search and discovery for utilities in order to lessen or avoid potential damages. The owner/operator shall complete TX-ENG-80, UTILITIES INVENTORY prior to layout or any ground disturbance and return it to an NRCS representative.*

**4. Site preparation**

The land to be formed shall be cleared of brush, crop residue, trash and vegetative material that would materially reduce the effectiveness of land forming operations

**5. Borrow location**

Soils for land-forming operations shall be obtained from the designated cut areas in the field or from other designated borrow areas as specified in the plan.

**6. Land forming operations**

The land shall be formed to the designed grade or grades. Fills of more than 6 inches (152 mm) shall be placed by spreading the soil in successive layers. Land-forming operations shall not be performed when the ground is frozen or if soil moisture conditions are such that they could cause excessive damage to soil structure, resulting in poor crop growth or detrimental settlement.

Construction operation shall be done in such a manner that erosion and air and water pollution are minimized and held within legal limits.

After cuts and fills have been completed, the land shall be *plowed or disked and the surface* smoothed to

remove minor irregularities.

## **7. Finished grades**

All land forming work shall be finished according to the design and to the tolerances specified. *Permissible variations of the finished grade from the planned grade, or a plane paralleling the planned plane, shall be 0.10 foot, plus or minus, providing such variations will not cause undrained sags and drainage or tillage problems.* The completed job shall be workmanlike and present a good appearance.

## **8. Measurement**

*METHOD 1 When land forming is performed on an acreage basis the formed area will be measured to the nearest 0.1 acre. Sufficient profiles will be taken to determine that designed grades have been obtained. Since accurate measurements are made during design and layout, only sufficient checks will be made to ensure that the acreage land formed equals or exceeds the acreage planned to be land formed.*

*METHOD 2 When land forming is performed on a yardage basis, measurement will be the designed yardage computed to the nearest cubic yard. Sufficient profiles will be taken to determine that designed grades have been obtained. Sufficient checks will be made to ensure that the acreage land formed equals or exceeds the acreage planned to be land formed.*

## **9. Construction details**

*The following listed drawings are attached and are a part of these Construction Specifications: (Include other applicable items - mark out and initial items listed and not applicable.)*

a. TX-ENG-80 - UTILITIES INVENTORY