

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION PRACTICE GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS**

**LAND SMOOTHING**

**(Acre)  
CODE 466**

**1. SCOPE**

*Work shall consist of removing irregularities on the land surface as specified.*

**2. LOCATION**

*The planned location of the area to be land-smoothed 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. MATERIAL**

*Earthfill material for the land smoothing operation will be from the cut areas within the field to be smoothed. When specified, outlying spoil banks or other earth material sources may be taken into fill areas as a preliminary grading operation before cut and fill grading of the soil surface is performed.*

**5. SITE PREPARATION**

*The land surface shall be free of brush, crop residue, trash or vegetative material that would materially reduce the effectiveness of the smoothing operation. The land surface should be plowed or disked prior to smoothing.*

**6. SMOOTHING OPERATIONS**

*Irregularities shall be smoothed to the degree required for the planned use and the requirements of subsequent tillage, floating, or planing to be performed. Smoothing operations shall not be performed when soil moisture conditions will result in excessive damage to soil structure. Earth should be moved by scrapers, dozers, land levelers, or similar earthmoving equipment.*

**7. CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS**

*Construction operations shall be carried out in such a manner that erosion and air and water pollution will be minimized and held within legal limits.*

Conservation practice general specifications are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

## **8. MEASUREMENT**

*(METHOD) When land smoothing is performed on an acreage basis, the area smoothed will be measured to the nearest 0.1 acre. Sufficient field checks will be made to determine that the area has been smoothed in accordance with these specifications.*

*(METHOD 2) When land smoothing 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 smoothed equals or exceeds the acreage planned to be smoothed.*

## **9. CONSTRUCTION DETAILS**

*The following listed forms and 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