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**SUBJECT: VIRGINIA FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE – SECTION IV –
 Virginia Conservation Practice Standards**

Purpose: To transmit the following VA Conservation Practice Standards and supporting documentation:

Code	Standard	O&M Plan	Statement of Work	Design Note
560	Access Road	X	X	Engineering Design Note 1 – Road Drainage Practices, revised
575	Animal Trails and Walkways	X	X	Removed
584	Channel Bed Stabilization	X	X	
326	Clearing and Snagging	X	X	DN 326 removed
372	Combustion System Improvement	X	X	
402	Dam	X	X	
374	Farmstead Energy Improvement	X	X	
410	Grade Stabilization Structure	X	X	
430	Irrigation Pipeline	X	X	
436	Irrigation Reservoir	X	X	
441	Irrigation System, Microirrigation	X	X	
442	Irrigation System, Sprinkler	X	X	
447	Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery	X	X	
449	Irrigation Water Management		X	
527	Karst Sinkhole Treatment	X	X	Engineering Design Note 527 – Karst Sinkhole Treatment, revised
468	Lined Waterway or Outlet	X	X	
353	Monitoring Well	X	X	
500	Obstruction Removal	X	X	
378	Pond	X	X	
533	Pumping Plant	X	X	



558	Roof Runoff Structure	X	X	
367	Roofs and Covers	X	X	
350	Sediment Basin	X	X	
572	Spoil Spreading	X	X	
580	Streambank and Shoreline Protection	X	X	
587	Structure for Water Control	X	X	DN 587 removed
633	Waste Recycling		X	
614	Watering Facility	X	X	
642	Water Well	X	X	Engineering Design Note 4 – Wells, new
351	Water Well Decommissioning		X	
355	Well Water Testing	X	X	

Effective Date: Upon receipt.

Filing Instructions: These standards and supporting documentation are accessible electronically in Section IV of the VA eFOTG at:
<http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov>.

If you maintain hard copies, replace the old standards with updated standards in Section IV of the Virginia Field Office Technical Guide. File updated supporting documents behind the pertinent standard.

Explanation:

Access Road (Code 560) - This Standard is not substantially different from the previous version. Design Note 1 – Road Drainage Practice has been revised. On the eFOTG, it will be located in the Design Note folder.

Animal Trails and Walkways (Code 575) – The Standard is not substantially different from the previous version. Design Note 575 has been removed.

Channel Bed Stabilization (Code 584) – The name of this Standard was changed from Channel Stabilization to Channel Bed Stabilization to better describe the use of this Standard.

Clearing and Snagging (Code 326) – No significant technical changes were made to this Standard. The Definition was revised to clarify that clearing and snagging includes the removal of vegetation from streambanks. Criteria were limited to the purposes stated. Considerations were expanded to improve the conservation function.

Combustion System Improvement (Code 372) – The Standard is new to Virginia. It can be used to install, replace, or retrofit agricultural combustion systems and/or related components of devices for air quality and energy efficiency improvement.

Dam (Code 402) – The Standard was modified to add a purpose and criteria for renewable energy production.

Farmstead Energy Improvement (Code 374) – This Standard is new to Virginia. It can be used for the development and implementation of improvements that were identified in

an energy audit as reducing on-farm energy use or improving the energy efficiency of on-farm activities.

Grade Stabilization Structure (Code 410) – No significant changes were made to this Standard.

Irrigation Pipeline (Code 430) – The purposes of “reduce energy use” and “develop renewable energy systems” and their corresponding criteria were added.

Irrigation Reservoir (Code 436) - The purposes of “reduce energy use” and “develop renewable energy systems” and their corresponding criteria were added.

Irrigation System, Microirrigation (Code 441) – The unit was changed from (No. and Ac.) to (Ac.). The purpose of “reduce energy use” and its corresponding criteria were added.

Irrigation System, Sprinkler (Code 442) - The purpose of “reduce energy use” and its corresponding criteria were added.

Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (Code 447) - The purpose of “reduce energy use” and its corresponding criteria were added.

Irrigation Water Management (Code 449) - The purpose of “reduce energy use” and its corresponding criteria were added.

Karst Sinkhole Treatment (Code 527) – The practice name was changed from Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment. The practice does not apply to sinkholes with non-karst origins (structural failures due to piping, etc.). Design Note 527 has been revised to incorporate the name change.

Lined Waterway or Outlet (Code 468) – Changes to the Standard include the following: revision in the range of Manning’s roughness coefficient and references cited in Criteria section; expansion of the Considerations section to include fish and wildlife and soil bioengineering, etc.; and more comprehensive guidance on what should be included in the Plans and Specifications section.

Monitoring Well (Code 353) – The Standard is new to Virginia. A monitoring well would be used to sample ground water near an agricultural waste storage or treatment facility to detect seepage and monitor ground water quality.

Obstruction Removal (Code 500) – This Standard is significantly different from the version used in the past. It applies to removal and disposal of buildings, structures, other works of improvement, vegetation, debris, or other material that is on the land. It does not apply to removal of objects from water.

Pond (Code 378) - The purpose of “develop renewable energy systems” and its corresponding criteria were added.

Pumping Plant (Code 533) – Two new purposes and accompanying criteria have been added: “Improvement of air quality” and “Reduce energy use.” Criteria are specified for variable frequency drives, photovoltaic panels, windmills, and hydraulic rams. Irrigation applications must include flow and pressure measurement devices in system design.

Roof Runoff Structure (Code 558) – The only change to this Standard is that there is a reference for the requirements for potable water.

Roofs and Covers (Code 367) – This Standard is new to Virginia. It will be used in conjunction with animal waste structures that have roofs.

Sediment Basin (Code 350) – There are no significant changes to this Standard.

Spoil Spreading (Code 572) – There are no significant changes to this Standard.

Streambank and Shoreline Protection (Code 580) – There are no significant changes to this Standard.

Structure for Water Control (Code 587) – There are no significant changes to this Standard.

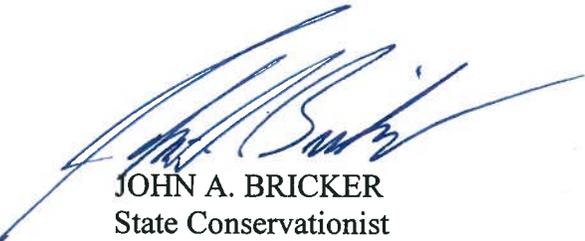
Waste Recycling (Code 633) - This Standard was previously called *Waste Utilization (Code 633)*. The *Waste Recycling* Standard is different from the *Waste Utilization* Standard in almost every way, starting with the definition. According to NHCP Notice 154, “The application is more focused on processing and recycling agriculture waste material into a valuable by-product.” The O&M Plan for this practice will be developed by the planner. It was not practical to write a generic O&M Plan because the potential uses of the practice vary.

Watering Facility (Code 614) – This Standard is not substantially different from the previous version. Reference is given to Virginia Engineering Design Note 614. There are some changes to the requirements for livestock watering ramps.

Water Well (Code 642) – This Standard **no longer allows the installation of a well for the purpose of providing human drinking water**. However, in order to meet the criteria of the Standard, the well must be installed to meet the criteria for Class III wells, as defined by the Virginia Department of Health Private Well Regulations. This type of well will produce water suitable for human consumption. Minimum separation distances are shown in Virginia Engineering Design Note 4 – Wells.

Water Well Decommissioning (Code 351) – The name of this Standard was changed to Water Well Decommissioning. This Standard does not apply to water wells that were used for waste disposal or wells other than water wells.

Well Water Testing (Code 355) – This Standard is new to Virginia. It only applies to wells used for agricultural purposes.



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Distribution: E