

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

DRAINAGE WATER MANAGEMENT

CODE 554

Land Owner/Operator _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained drainage water management system is an asset to the farm. This drainage system was designed and installed to control water surface elevations and discharge from surface and subsurface drainage systems. Estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this system can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program includes:

Maintain, repair, or replace structures, controls, and pumps in proper working order for the duration of the lifespan. Immediately repair any damage caused by vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.

Inspect after significant storm events and at least annually to identify repair and maintenance needs.

Control the water table between predetermined design elevations and confirm the desired levels exist in the controlled area.

Maintain a vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height.

Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents and/or burrowing animals that have or can potentially damage any part of the system. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.

The drainage outlet will be raised at least 3 days prior to manure applications and will remain raised at least 3 days after the application to prevent leakage of liquid manure applications into drain pipes.

Critical dates and target elevations of the water level necessary to accomplish the intended purposes of this practice are identified below:

Critical Date: _____ Target Water Elevation: _____

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Critical Date: _____ Target Water Elevation: _____

