

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
VIRGINIA
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS
HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION
CODE 561

Land Owner/Operator _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly installed, operated, and maintained heavy use area can be an asset to the property. This practice was designed and installed to stabilize the area identified in the plan. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of the practice can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

Your operation and maintenance program requirements include:

- Inspect treatment areas and associated practices annually and immediately after significant storm events. Promptly repair or replace all damaged components, especially surfaces that are subject to wear or erosion.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, mowing, and application of herbicides when necessary. Apply supplemental nutrients as needed to maintain the desired species composition and stand density. Control undesired weed species, especially state-listed noxious weeds.
- Maintain hardened surfaces in good condition. This includes periodic grading and addition of surface material when necessary. Prevent surface ponding by localized grading or addition of surface materials to remove depressions. Repair surfaces with material compatible with original construction materials.
- Remove debris or blockages from associated drainage ditches, drop inlets, culverts, waterways and/or storm water outlets. Maintain pathway drainage capacities.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to surfaces, structures, earthfills, side slopes, drainage facilities, waterways, storm water outlets, or other associated appurtenances.
- For livestock heavy use areas, manage manure accumulations in accordance with the Agricultural Waste Management System Plan. The operational requirements for managing the heavy use

