

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

UNDERGROUND OUTLET

CODE 620

Land Owner/Operator _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained underground outlet for water is an asset to your farm. This outlet was designed and installed to convey water in a pipeline where it can be released without causing erosion. Estimated life span of this installation is at least 20 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 includes:

- At least semi-annually, and immediately following significant runoff events, inspect the system to ensure proper function. Keep inlets, valves, gates, trash racks, rodent guards, trash guards, collection boxes, and structures clean and free of materials that can reduce the flow.
- Promptly repair or replace damaged components. Repair leaks and broken or crushed lines to ensure proper functioning of the conduit. Repair or replace inlets crushed by farm equipment.
- Periodically check outlet conduit and animal guards to ensure proper functioning of the conduit. Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Repair any eroded areas at the pipe outlet. Maintain a stable outlet by installing non-eroding materials as needed.
- Maintain design depth of cover on all pipelines and structures. Avoid operation of tillage and subsoiling equipment that could damage any component of the system.
- To maintain the permeability of surface materials on blind inlets, periodic scouring or removal and replacement of the surface soil layer may be necessary.
- Limit traffic over pipeline to designated sections that were designed for traffic loads.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control growth.
- 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 any part of the practice.

