

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE**

**VIRGINIA**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS**

**WATER AND SEDIMENT CONTROL BASIN**

**CODE 638**

Land Owner/Operator \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ SWCD \_\_\_\_\_ Farm/Tract No. \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

A properly operated and maintained Water and Sediment Control Basin is an asset to your farm. This structure was designed and installed to entrap sediment and provide storage to runoff water for beneficial use. Estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this installation 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:

- After each large storm, basins must be inspected and needed maintenance performed.
- Promptly repair or replace damaged components.
- Maintain basin ridge height and outlet elevations.
- Remove accumulated sediment from the basin to maintain capacity and grade.
- Make sure all structure drains are functional and soil is not being transported through the drainage system.
- Regularly clean inlets for underground outlets. Repair or replace inlets damaged by farm equipment. Remove sediment around inlets to ensure that the inlet remains the lowest spot in the basin.
- Periodically inspect the spillways and control gates for proper functioning and their ability to maintain the water level to design elevations. Immediately remove any blockage or obstructions in spillways. Remove debris that may accumulate at the water and sediment control basin and immediately upstream or downstream from the basin.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and application of herbicides when necessary. Fertilize the established stand as needed to maintain a uniform vigorous stand. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height. Vegetative disturbance should be scheduled to avoid the peak nesting season.
- Provide notification of hazards about steep slopes on the basin.

