

Mulching

Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet 484



As a minimum, apply manufactured mulches according to the manufacturer's specifications.

Mulch material shall be of a quality to meet the intended purpose.

Specify any additional criteria below to meet the intended purpose and function of mulching for this site:

Definition

Applying plant residues or other suitable materials produced off site, to the land surface.

Purpose

- Conserve soil moisture
- Reduce energy use associated with irrigation
- Provide erosion control
- Facilitate the establishment of vegetative cover
- Improve soil health
- Reduce airborne particulates

Criteria

Select mulching material based on the purpose, site conditions and the material's availability.

Mulch materials shall consist of natural and/or artificial materials that of sufficient dimension (depth or thickness) and durability to achieve the intended purpose for the required time period.

Prior to mulching, the soil surface shall be prepared in order to achieve the desired purpose.

Apply the mulch material evenly, and if necessary, anchor to the soil. Use tackifiers, emulsions, pinning, netting, crimping or other acceptable methods as anchors if needed to hold the mulch in place for specified periods.

Note: This summary does not address all requirements and considerations in the VA Mulching Conservation Practice Standard (Code 484). Consult the Conservation Practice Standard for further details.

General Information	
Client: _____	County: _____
Field Office: _____	Contract: _____
Farm #: _____	Tract #: _____
Field # and acreage: _____	

Clients Purpose(s) (check all that apply)
<input type="checkbox"/> Conserve soil moisture
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce energy associated with irrigation
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide erosion control
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate the establishment of vegetative cover
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve soil health
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce airborne particulates
Practice Specifications
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of mulch and duration needed: _____ • Type of mulch material used: _____ • The percent cover and/or thickness of mulch material: _____ • Timing of application: _____ • Site prep performed prior to mulching: _____ _____ • Method and type of anchoring used: _____

Operation & Maintenance (O&M)
<p>Carry out all of the following actions to ensure that the planned practice functions as intended after initial installation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inspect mulched areas periodically and reinstall or repair mulch as needed to accomplish intended purpose. 2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the mulch (application, amount of cover provided, durability, etc.) and adjust the management or type of mulch to better meet the intended purpose and site conditions. 3. Remove or incorporate mulch materials in a manner that is consistent with the intended purpose and site conditions. 4. Operate equipment near and on the site in a manner that will compromise the intended purpose of the mulch. 5. Prevent or repair any fire damage to the mulch material. 6. Properly collect and dispose of artificial mulch material after intended use. 7. Monitor and control undesirable weeds in mulched areas.

Operation & Maintenance (O&M) continued

Use this space as needed to provide any additional practical guidance necessary to achieve the desired function of the practice for the intended duration.

Planner Certification

The Mulching practice planned in this job sheet fulfills the minimum requirements of Virginia NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 484.

Signature

Title

Date

Certification of Practice Completion

The Mulching practice planned in this job sheet has been completed and maintained according to Virginia NRCS specifications (indicate in Practice Specifications any changes to planned activities and acreage.)

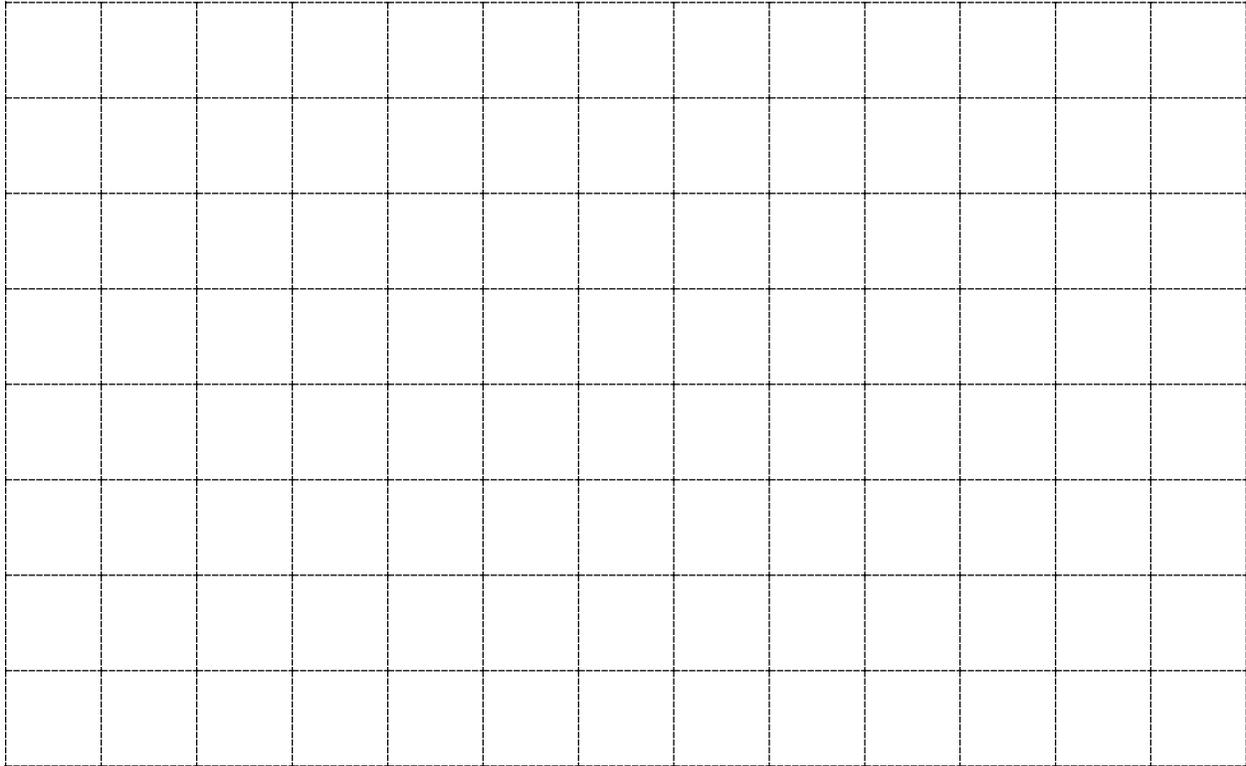
Signature

Title

Date

If needed, an aerial view or a side view of the practice can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

Scale 1"= _____ ft. (N/A indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")



Additional Specifications and Notes:

Empty space for additional specifications and notes.

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