

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
FOR
RESTORATION OF RARE OR DECLINING NATURAL COMMUNITIES (643)**

Landowner/user:

Date:

Address:

A properly operated and maintained **Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities Practice** is an asset to your farm operation and your agricultural land. Implementation of Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities will help you to achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by restoring the physical conditions and/or unique plant community on sites that partially support, or once supported, a rare or declining natural community. Application of this practice addresses resource concerns of a degraded plant condition and/or inadequate wildlife habitat.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. The following are some requirements of the operation and maintenance program.

Operation and Maintenance

Lifespan 1 Year

- Replace dead and dying woody species in newly established plantings.
- New plantings must be protected from grazing during the establishment period, as well as protected from fire and pests, including insects, diseases, competing vegetation and animals (deer, beaver and mice).
- Supplemental water as well as periodic applications of nutrients maybe needed to maintain plant health and vigor.
- Any use of fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals shall not compromise the intended purpose of this practice.
- Periodic inspections will be conducted post-restoration. Inspections will include assessment of:
 - potential for re-invasion by noxious, invasive, and problem species from nearby lands and waters.
 - identification and implementation of adaptive management efforts to address identified concerns.

Specific Additional Requirements for Your Practice: