

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
FOR
MULCHING (484)**

Landowner/user:

Date:

Address:

A properly developed and maintained **Mulching Practice** is an asset to your farm operation and to the environment. Implementation of Mulching consists of applying plant residues or other suitable materials produced offsite, to the land surface. This practice may provide many benefits including: conserving soil moisture; reduce energy use associated with irrigation; moderate soil temperature; provide erosion control; suppress weed growth; facilitate the establishment of vegetative cover; improve soil quality; and reduce airborne particulates.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation and maintenance to maintain satisfactory performance. Operation and maintenance is comprised of the following activities:

Operation and Maintenance

- Mulched areas will be periodically inspected, and mulch shall be reapplied or repaired as needed to accomplish the intended purpose.
- 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(s).
- Removal or incorporation of mulch materials shall be consistent with the intended purpose and site conditions.
- Operation of equipment near and on the site shall not compromise the intended purpose of the mulch.
- Prevent or repair/reapply any wind or fire damage to the mulch material.
- Properly collect and dispose of artificial mulch material after intended use.
- Monitor and control undesirable weeds in mulched areas.

Additional operation and maintenance requirements may be required to be developed on a site-specific basis to assure performance of the practice as intended.

Specific Additional Requirements for Your Practice: