

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
WEST VIRGINIA
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS
DIVERSION
CODE 362

Landowner/Operator _____

County _____ CD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

A properly installed and maintained diversion practice can be an asset to the farm. The project was installed to stabilize the bed or bottom of a channel. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of the practice can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice requires periodic O&M to properly manage and keep the system in good repair. Items for consideration are:

- Provide periodic inspections, especially immediately following significant storms. Inspect at least annually to identify repair and maintenance needs. Promptly repair or replace damaged components of the diversion as necessary. Vegetation damaged by machinery, herbicides, or erosion must be repaired promptly.
- Maintain diversion capacity, ridge height, and outlet elevations especially if high sediment yielding areas are in the drainage area above the diversion. As necessary clean-out, remove sediment buildup, to ensure proper diversion functionality. Redistribute sediment to maintain the capacity of the diversion.
- Each inlet for underground outlets must be kept clean and sediment buildup redistributed so that the inlet is at the lowest point. Inlets damaged by farm machinery must be replaced or repaired immediately.
- Mow or periodically graze vegetation to maintain capacity and reduce sediment deposition. Maintain vegetation and trees and control brush by hand, chemical and/or mechanical means. Maintenance of vegetation will be scheduled outside of the primary nesting season for grassland birds.
 - Minimize damage to vegetation by excluding livestock whenever possible, especially during wet periods. Permit grazing on the diversion only when a controlled grazing system is being implemented.
 - Do not graze during establishment of vegetation.
 - Control noxious weeds.
- Keep machinery away from steep sloped ridges. Keep equipment operators informed of all potential hazards.
- Remove all foreign debris that may reduce capacity or hinder system operation.
- Control pests that will interfere with the timely establishment of vegetation. Check frequently for burrowing animals. When found, remove and replace embankment materials and re-establish vegetation.