

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
WEST VIRGINIA
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS
HEAVY USE AREA PROTECTION
CODE 561

Landowner/Operator _____

County _____ CD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

A properly operated and maintained heavy use area is an asset to the farm. The practice was designed, and installed, to stabilize the area identified in the plan. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of the heavy use area can be assured, and usually increased, by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance (O&M) program.

The heavy use area is surfaced with_____.

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

- Periodic inspections at least annually and immediately following significant rainfall events; especially for unroofed areas.
- Prompt repair or replacement of damaged components especially surfaces that are subjected to wear or erosion.
 - Maintain hardened surfaces in good condition. This includes periodic grading and the addition of surface material when necessary. Prevent surface ponding by localized grading or addition of surface materials to remove depressions. Repair surfaces with material compatible with original construction materials.
- For vegetated heavy use areas, restrict use as needed to protect the stand and to allow vegetative recovery.
 - Maintain vigorous growth vegetated covering. This includes reseeding, mowing, and application of herbicides when necessary. Apply supplemental nutrients as needed to maintain the desired species composition and stand density. Control undesired weed species, especially state-listed noxious weeds.
- Remove debris or blockages from associated drainage ditches, drop inlets, culverts, waterways and/or storm outlets. Maintain pathway drainage capacities.
- For livestock heavy use areas, the O & M shall be included as part of the overall waste management plan.
- Scrape the surface as needed to remove excess manure and/or sediment or pick up manure and waste and place in a designated waste storage facility, non-wetland or upland location as appropriate for the time of year.
- For livestock heavy use areas, include requirements for the regular removal and management of manure, as needed.
 - Manage manure accumulations in accordance with Agricultural Waste Management System Plan. The operational requirements for managing the heavy use area and associated practices, including planned scraping intervals, storage, treatment, and/or disposal methods, are described below.

Additional Operation and Maintenance requirements specific to this plan:

Inspection Date	Items to be Repaired and Corrective Action Taken	Repair Date
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____

Contact your local NRCS office for any additional technical assistance you might need for implementation of this O&M plan.

This O&M Plan was discussed and copy provided to the Landowner/Operator.

Signed _____ Date _____
Responsible NRCS Employee/ Conservation Planner

Signed _____ Date _____
Cooperator