



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ARKANSAS

Conservation Practice Catalog



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Helping People Help the Land

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As a landowner or farm operator, you face many decisions when managing your natural resources. When you evaluate options for your operation, consider installing conservation practices listed in this handout to help improve your resource management and cropping system. A conservation plan can be developed to improve management for additional resource concerns. NRCS staff and your local soil and water conservation district (SWCD) are available to help you make the right choices to protect your operation and resources.

This document is not to be used as technical guidance or policy. All NRCS practices shall be applied according to current Conservation Practice Standards available in the Field Office Technical Guide, Section IV (<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getting-assistance/conservation-practices>).

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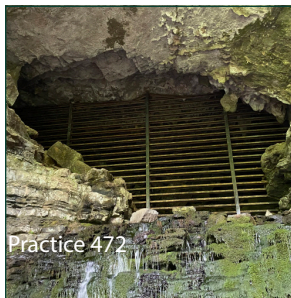
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Access Control (472)

Definition

The temporary or permanent exclusion of animals, people, vehicles, and/or equipment from an area

Purpose

Achieve and maintain desired resource conditions by monitoring and managing the intensity of use by animals, people, vehicles, and equipment in coordination with the application schedule of practices, measures, and activities specified in the conservation plan.



Access Road (560)

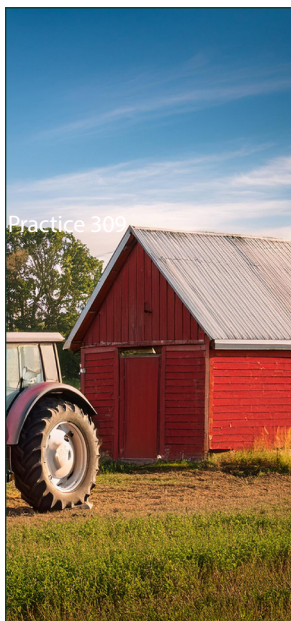
Definition

An access road is an established route for equipment and vehicles.

Purpose

To provide a fixed route for vehicular travel for resource activities involving the management of conservation forestry operations, livestock, agriculture, wildlife habitat, and other conservation enterprises.

This practice applies where access is needed from a private or public road or highway to a land use enterprise or conservation measure, or where access is needed in a planned land use area.



Agrichemical Handling Facility (309)

Definition

A facility with an impervious surface to provide an environmentally safe area for the handling of on-farm agrichemicals.

Purpose

To provide an environmentally-safe facility to:

- ◆ Store, mix, load, and clean-up agrichemicals
- ◆ Retain incidental spillage or leakage
- ◆ Reduce pollution to surface water, ground water, air, and/or soil

Practice needed to properly manage and handle the chemical operation;

- ◆ An adequate water supply is available for filling application equipment tanks, rinsing application equipment and chemical containers as needed;
- ◆ Soils and topography are suitable for construction.

NOTE: This practice does not apply to the handling or storage of fuels, or to commercial or multi-landowner agrichemical handling operations.



Amending Soil Properties with Gypsum Products (333)

Definition

Using gypsum- (calcium sulfate dihydrate) derived products to change the physical and/or chemical properties of soil.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve soil health by improving physical/ chemical properties and increasing infiltration of the soil
- ♦ Improve surface water quality by reducing dissolved phosphorus concentrations in surface runoff and subsurface drainage
- ♦ Improve soil health by ameliorating subsoil aluminum toxicity
- ♦ Improve water quality by reducing the potential for pathogens and other contaminants transport from areas of manure and biosolids application

Amending Soil Properties with Lime (805)

Definition

Adjust the soil pH with lime to change physical and chemical properties of the soil to achieve a conservation objective.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve plant productivity and health
- ♦ Improve plant structure and composition
- ♦ Improve habitat for soil organisms
- ♦ Improve water quality by increasing plant availability of applied nutrients
- ♦ Improve aggregate stability

Amendments for Treatment of Ag Waste (591)

Definition

The addition of chemical or biological additives to manure, process wastewater, contaminated storm water runoff, or other wastes to reduce adverse effects on air and/or water.

Purpose

- ♦ Facilitate the management, handling, and processing of manure and waste
- ♦ Reduce risk associated with the spread and contamination from pathogens
- ♦ Improve or protect air quality
- ♦ Improve or protect water quality
- ♦ Improve or protect animal health



Practice 316

Animal Mortality Facility (316)

Definition

An on-farm facility for the treatment or disposal of animal carcasses.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce pollution impacts to surface water and groundwater resources
- ♦ Reduce the impact of odors
- ♦ Decrease the spread of pathogens

Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Application (450)

Definition

Application of water-soluble anionic polyacrylamide (PAM) to the soil.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce soil erosion by water or wind
- ♦ Improve soil surface infiltration rate and minimize soil crusting to allow for uniform plant growth

This practice does not apply to soils with peat or organic surface horizon soils. This practice does not apply to the application of PAM to flowing, nonirrigation waters.



Practice 450

Annual Forages for Grazing Systems (810)

Definition

Establish adapted and compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of annual forage species suitable for pasture or fodder.

Purpose

- ◆ Provide or increase forage supply during periods of low forage production or to extend the grazing season
- ◆ Provide temporary cover to reduce wind and water erosion and forage for sites where perennial forages will be reestablished
- ◆ Reduce excess nutrients from the soil
- ◆ Improve soil microbial life and soil aggregate stability

This practice applies to pasture and cropland where annual forages are planted as part of the grazing system forage budget.

Aquatic Organism Passage (396)

Definition

Modification or removal of barriers that restrict or impede movement of aquatic organisms.

Purpose

Provide access to habitat by improving or providing passage for aquatic organisms.

Brush Management (314)

Definition

The management or removal of woody (non- herbaceous or succulent) plants including those that are invasive and noxious.

Purpose

- ◆ Create the desired plant community consistent with the ecological site or a desired state within the site description
- ◆ Restore or release desired vegetative cover to protect soils, control erosion, reduce sediment, improve water quality, or enhance hydrology
- ◆ Maintain, modify, or enhance fish and wildlife habitat
- ◆ Improve forage accessibility, quality, and quantity for livestock and wildlife
- ◆ Manage fuel loads to achieve desired conditions
- ◆ Pervasive plant species are controlled to a desired level of treatment that will ultimately contribute to creation or maintenance of an ecological site description "steady state" addressing the need for forage, wildlife habitat, and/or water quality



Practice 314

Combustion System Improvement (372)

Definition

Installing, replacing, or retrofitting agricultural combustion systems and/or related components or devices for air quality and energy efficiency improvement.

Purpose

- ♦ To improve air quality by addressing the air quality resource concerns for particulate matter and ozone precursors by mitigating actual or potential emissions of oxides of nitrogen and/or fine particulate matter
- ♦ To improve the energy efficiency of agricultural combustion systems



Composting Facility (317)

Definition

A structure or device to contain and facilitate an aerobic microbial ecosystem for the decomposition of manure, other organic material, or both, into a final product sufficiently stable for storage, on-farm use, and application to land as a soil amendment.

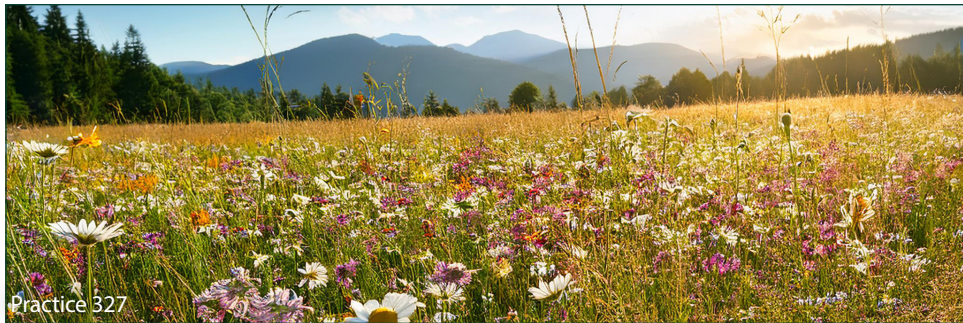
Purpose

- ♦ Reduce water pollution potential
- ♦ Conserve energy by reducing mass and improving handling characteristics of organic waste solids
- ♦ Reuse organic waste as animal bedding
- ♦ Transform organic waste into a soil amendment that improves soil health, provides slow-release plant-available nutrients, and suppresses plant disease

This practice applies where at least one of the following conditions occurs:

- ♦ Organic solid wastes to be composted derive primarily from agricultural production or processing
- ♦ The compost can be reused in the operation, utilized for crop production, improve soil health, or marketed to the public





Conservation Cover (327)

Definition

Establishing and maintaining permanent vegetative cover.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce sheet, rill, and wind erosion and sedimentation
- ♦ Reduce ground and surface water quality degradation by nutrients and surface water quality degradation by sediment
- ♦ Reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM), PM precursors, and greenhouse gases
- ♦ Enhance wildlife, pollinator, and beneficial organism habitat
- ♦ Improve soil health

Conservation Crop Rotation (328)

Definition

A planned sequence of crops grown on the same ground over a period of time (i.e. the rotation cycle).

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce sheet, rill and wind erosion
- ♦ Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content
- ♦ Reduce water quality degradation due to excess nutrients
- ♦ Improve soil moisture efficiency
- ♦ Reduce the concentration of salts and other chemicals from saline seeps
- ♦ Reduce plant pest pressures
- ♦ Provide feed and forage for domestic livestock
- ♦ Provide food and cover habitat for wildlife, including pollinator forage, and nesting





Practice 656

Constructed Wetland (656)

Definition

An artificial ecosystem with hydrophytic vegetation for water treatment.

Purpose

For treatment of wastewater and contaminated runoff from agricultural processing, livestock, and aquaculture facilities, or for improving the quality of storm water runoff or other water flows lacking specific water quality discharge criteria.

Contour Buffer Strips (332)

Definition

Narrow strips of permanent, herbaceous vegetative cover established around the hill slope, and alternated down the slope with wider cropped strips that are farmed on the contour.

Purpose

To support one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Reduce sheet and rill erosion
- ♦ Reduce water quality degradation from the transport of sediment and other waterborne contaminants downslope
- ♦ Improve soil moisture management through increased water infiltration
- ♦ Reduce water quality degradation from the transport of nutrients downslope



Practice 332

Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crops (331)

Definition

Planting orchards, vineyards, or other perennial crops so that all cultural operations are done on or near the contour.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce transport of sediment and other associated contaminants
- ♦ Improve water use efficiency with improved infiltration
- ♦ Reduce soil erosion

Controlled Traffic Farming (334)

Definition

Controlled traffic farming (CTF) is confining all high load wheel/track traffic from farm equipment to specific lanes or tramlines (traffic pattern) in crop fields year after year.

Purpose

Improve soil health by limiting wheel traffic compaction to limited traffic lanes.

Cover Crop (340)

Definition

Grasses, legumes, and forbs planted for seasonal vegetative cover.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce erosion from wind and water
- ♦ Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content
- ♦ Reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excessive soil nutrients
- ♦ Suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
- ♦ Improve soil moisture use efficiency
- ♦ Minimize soil compaction



Critical Area Planting (342)

Definition

Establishing permanent vegetation on sites that have, or are expected to have, high erosion rates, and on sites that have physical, chemical or biological conditions that prevent the establishment of vegetation with seeding/ planting methods.

Purpose

- ♦ Stabilize areas with existing or expected high rates of soil erosion by wind or water
- ♦ Stabilize stream and channel banks, pond and other shorelines, earthen features of structural conservation practices
- ♦ Stabilize areas such as sand dunes and riparian areas



Deep Tillage (324)

Definition

Performing tillage operations below the normal tillage depth to modify adverse physical or chemical properties of a soil.

Purpose

- ♦ Bury or mix soil deposits from wind or water erosion or flood overwash
- ♦ Fracture restrictive soil layers



Dike and Levee (356)

Definition

A barrier used to retain water on the landscape using a wetland dike; or, a barrier used to exclude water from the landscape and protect property and infrastructure from flooding using a flood control levee.

Purpose

- ♦ Manage water retained on the landscape using a dike
- ♦ Reduce flood risk by excluding water from a landscape using a levee



Diversion (362)

Definition

A channel constructed across the slope with a supporting ridge on the lower side.

Purpose

- ♦ Break up concentrations of water on long slopes, on undulating land surfaces and on land that is generally considered too flat or irregular for terracing
- ♦ Divert water away from farmsteads, agricultural waste systems, and other improvements
- ♦ Collect or direct water for storage, water-spreading, or water-harvesting systems
- ♦ Protect terrace systems by diverting water from the top terrace where topography, land use, or land ownership prevents terracing the land above
- ♦ Intercept surface and shallow subsurface flow
- ♦ Reduce runoff damages from upland runoff
- ♦ Reduce erosion and runoff on urban or developing areas and at construction or mining sites
- ♦ Divert water away from active gullies or critically eroding areas
- ♦ Supplement water management on conservation cropping or stripcropping systems





Early Successional Habitat Development (647)

Definition

Manage plant succession to develop and maintain early successional habitat to benefit desired wildlife and/or natural communities.

Purpose

To provide habitat for species requiring early successional habitat for all or part of their life cycle.

Emergency Animal Mortality Management (368)

Definition

A means or method for the management of animal carcasses from catastrophic mortality events.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Reduce impacts to surface water and ground water including downstream drinking water sources
- ♦ Reduce the impact of odors
- ♦ Decrease the spread of pathogens

Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation (374)

Definition

Development and implementation of improvements to reduce or improve the energy efficiency of on-farm energy use.

Purpose

This practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system to reduce energy use.

The practice applies to non-residential structures and energy using systems where reducing energy use is the identified goal.



Energy Efficient Building Envelope (672)

Definition

A boundary between a conditioned space and an unconditioned space that meets or exceeds best practices for energy efficiency.

Purpose

Improve energy efficiency of an existing agricultural building envelope.

This practice applies to any partially or fully conditioned agricultural building or space. A partially conditioned space is a building or space using both mechanical ventilation and natural ventilation.

Energy Efficient Lighting System (670)

Definition

An agricultural lighting system with increased energy efficiency.

Purpose

Improve energy efficiency of an agricultural facility lighting system.



Fence (382)

Definition

A constructed barrier to animals or people.

Purpose

Provide a means to control the movement of animals, people, and vehicles to accomplish specific conservation objectives.

Field Border (386)

Definition

A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field.

Purpose

- ◆ Reduce erosion from wind and water
- ◆ Protect soil and water quality
- ◆ Provide wildlife food and cover and pollinator or other beneficial organism habitat
- ◆ Increase carbon storage
- ◆ Improve air quality

This practice is applied around the inside perimeter of fields. Its use can support or connect other buffer practices within and between fields.



Field Operations Emissions Reduction (376)

Definition

Adjusting field operations and technologies to reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM) and oxides of nitrogen from field operations.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following:

- ♦ Reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM)
- ♦ Reduce emissions of oxides of nitrogen

Filter Strip (393)

Definition

A strip or area of herbaceous vegetation that removes contaminants from overland flow.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Reduce suspended solids and associated contaminants in runoff and excessive sediment in surface waters
- ♦ Reduce dissolved contaminant loadings in runoff
- ♦ Reduce suspended solids and associated contaminants in irrigation tailwater and excessive sediment in surface waters



Practice 393



Practice 394

Firebreak (394)

Definition

A permanent or temporary strip of ground cleared to bare soil or planted with fire-resistant vegetation meant to stop the spread of fire.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Stop or significantly reduce the spread of wildfire from excessive biomass accumulations
- ♦ Facilitate the management of plant productivity and health with prescribed fire

Forage Harvest Management (511)

Definition

The timely cutting and removal of forages as hay, green-chop, or ensilage.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Optimize quantity and quality of forage at the desired levels while promoting vigorous plant regrowth
- ♦ Manage the species composition to enhance desirable species
- ♦ Reduce excess soil nutrients
- ♦ Reduce pest pressure (insects, disease, weeds, invasive plants or plant toxins)
- ♦ Improve or protect wildlife and their habitat
- ♦ Optimize soil microbial life and aggregate stability
- ♦ Reduce soil compaction



Practice 511



Practice 666

Forest Stand Improvement (666)

Definition

The manipulation of tree and shrub species composition, structure, or density to achieve desired forest conditions.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes

- ◆ Maintain or improve forest carbon stocks
- ◆ Maintain or improve forest health and productivity
- ◆ Maintain or improve forest structure and composition
- ◆ Maintain or improve wildlife, fish, and pollinator habitat
- ◆ Manage natural precipitation more efficiently
- ◆ Reduce forest pest pressure
- ◆ Reduce forest wildfire hazard

Fuel Break (383)

Definition

A strip or block of land on which the vegetation, debris and detritus have been reduced and/ or modified to control or diminish the spread of fire.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Significantly reduce the spread of wildfire resulting from excessive biomass accumulations
- ◆ Facilitate the management of plant productivity and health with prescribed fire
- ◆ Facilitate the improvement of fish and wildlife habitat and/or livestock forage quality or quantity by facilitating prescribed fire



Practice 383



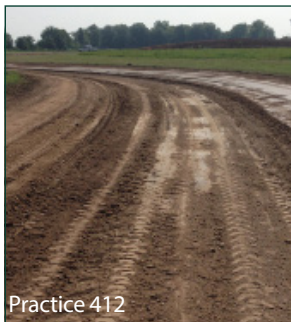
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)

Definition

A structure used to control the grade in natural or constructed channels.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce erosion
- ♦ Improve water quality



Grassed Waterway (412)

Definition

A shaped or graded channel that is established with suitable vegetation to convey surface water at a nonerosive velocity using a broad and shallow cross section to a stable outlet.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Convey runoff from terraces, diversions, or other water concentrations without causing erosion or flooding
- ♦ Prevent gully formation
- ♦ Protect/improve water quality



Groundwater Testing (355)

Definition

Testing the physical, biological, and chemical quality of groundwater from a water well or spring.

Purpose

To determine the suitability of a groundwater supply source for livestock watering, irrigation, wildlife, or other agricultural uses.



Heavy Use Area Protection (561)

Definition

Stabilization or protection of an intensively used area.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce soil erosion
- ♦ Provide a stable, noneroding surface for areas frequently used by animals, people, or vehicles
- ♦ Protect or improve water quality



Practice 422

Hedgerow Planting (422)

Definition

Establishment of dense vegetation in a linear design to achieve a natural resource conservation purpose.

Purpose

- ◆ Habitat, including food, cover, and corridors for terrestrial wildlife
- ◆ To enhance pollen, nectar, and nesting habitat for pollinators
- ◆ Food, cover, and shade for aquatic organisms that live in adjacent streams or watercourses
- ◆ To provide substrate for predaceous and beneficial invertebrates as a component of integrated pest management
- ◆ To intercept airborne particulate matter
- ◆ To reduce chemical drift and odor movement
- ◆ Screens and barriers to noise and dust
- ◆ To increase carbon storage in biomass and soils
- ◆ Living fences
- ◆ Boundary delineation and contour guidelines

Herbaceous Weed Treatment (315)

Definition

The removal or control of herbaceous weeds including invasive, noxious, prohibited, or undesirable plants.

Purpose

- ◆ Enhance accessibility, quantity, and quality of forage and/or browse
- ◆ Restore or release native or desired plant communities for wildlife habitat
- ◆ Protect soils and control erosion
- ◆ Reduce fine fuel loads and wildfire hazard
- ◆ Control pervasive plant species to a desired level of treatment



Practice 315

Herbaceous Wind Barriers (603)

Definition

Herbaceous vegetation established in narrow strips within the field to reduce wind speed and wind erosion.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Reduce soil erosion (wind erosion: saltation, creep, and suspension)
- ♦ Reduce soil particulate emissions to improve air quality
- ♦ Improve plant health by reducing crop damage by wind or wind-borne soil particles



High Tunnel System (325)

Definition

An enclosed polyethylene, polycarbonate, plastic, or fabric covered structure that is used to cover and protect crops from sun, wind, excessive rainfall, or cold, to extend the growing season in an environmentally safe manner.

Purpose

To improve plant health and vigor

Irrigation and Drainage Tailwater Recovery (447)

Definition

A system designed to collect, store, and convey irrigation tailwater, rainfall runoff, field drain water, or combination thereof for reuse in water distribution to the crop.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Improve irrigation water use efficiency
- ♦ Improve offsite water quality
- ♦ Reduce energy use





Irrigation Land Leveling (464)

Definition

Reshape a land surface according to the planned lines and grades for irrigation.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Facilitate the efficient use of water on irrigated land
- ♦ Provide uniform distribution of water on irrigated land

Irrigation Pipeline (430)

Definition

A pipeline and appurtenances installed to convey water for storage or application as part of an irrigation water system.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Convey water from a supply source to an irrigation system, storage pond, or reservoir
- ♦ Reduce irrigation conveyance water losses by converting from open channel to pipeline
- ♦ Reduce energy use





Practice 436

Irrigation Reservoir (436)

Definition

An irrigation water storage structure made by constructing a dam, embankment, pit, or tank.

Purpose

To achieve one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Store water to provide a reliable irrigation water supply or regulate available irrigation flows
- ♦ Improve water use efficiency on irrigated land
- ♦ Provide storage for tailwater recovery and reuse
- ♦ Provide irrigation runoff retention time to increase breakdown of chemical contaminants
- ♦ Reduce energy use
- ♦ Develop renewable energy systems

This practice applies to irrigation water storage structures that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- ♦ The existing available water supply is insufficient to meet irrigation requirements during all or part of the irrigation season.
- ♦ Water is available for storage from surface runoff, stream flow, irrigation canals, or a subsurface source.
- ♦ A suitable site is available for construction of a storage reservoir.

This practice applies to planning and functional design of storage capacity, and inflow/outflow capacity requirements for irrigation storage reservoirs. Storage reservoirs shall be planned and located to serve as an integral part of an irrigation system.

Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)

Definition

An irrigation system for frequent application of small quantities of water on or below the soil surface as drops, tiny streams, or miniature spray through emitters or applicators placed along a water delivery line.

Purpose

- ♦ Efficiently and uniformly apply irrigation water and maintain soil moisture for plant growth
- ♦ Prevent contamination of ground and surface water by efficiently and uniformly applying chemicals or nutrients
- ♦ Establishment of vegetation such as windbreaks and buffers
- ♦ Improve poor plant productivity and health



Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface (443)

Definition

A system in which all necessary earthwork, multi-outlet pipelines, and water-control structures are installed for distribution of water by surface means, such as furrows, borders, and contour levees, or by sub-surface means through water table control.

Purpose

- ♦ Efficiently convey and distribute irrigation water to the soil surface point of application without causing excessive water loss, erosion, or water quality impairment
- ♦ Efficiently convey and distribute irrigation water to the subsurface point of application without causing excessive water loss or water quality impairment
- ♦ Apply chemicals and/or nutrients as part of a surface irrigation system in a manner which protects water quality
- ♦ Reduce energy use



Irrigation Water Management (449)

Definition

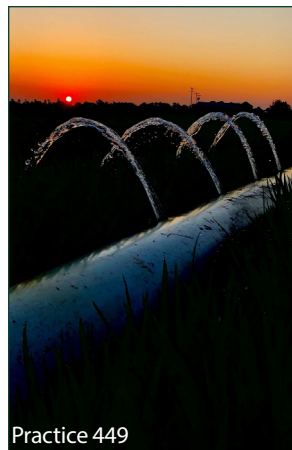
The process of determining and controlling the volume, frequency, and application rate of irrigation water.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Improve irrigation water use efficiency
- ♦ Minimize irrigation-induced soil erosion
- ♦ Protect surface and ground water quality
- ♦ Manage salts in the crop root zone
- ♦ Manage air, soil, or plant microclimate
- ♦ Improve poor plant productivity and health
- ♦ Reduce energy use

This practice is applicable to all currently irrigated lands.



Practice 449

Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)

Definition

A waterway or conveyance channel having an erosion-resistant lining of concrete, stone, synthetic turf reinforcement fabrics, or other flexible permanent material.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Provide safe conveyance of runoff from conservation practices or other flow concentrations without causing erosion or flooding
- ♦ Prevent or stabilize gully erosion or scour
- ♦ Protect and improve water quality



Practice 468



Practice 516

Livestock Pipeline (516)

Definition

A pipeline and appurtenances installed to convey water for livestock or wildlife.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Convey water to points of use for livestock or wildlife
- ◆ Reduce energy use

Livestock Shelter Structure (576)

Definition

A permanent or portable structure to protect animals from negative environmental factors. Structure will have fewer than four walls; this structure is not to be construed to be a building.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ To provide protection for animals from excessive heat, wind, cold, or snow.
- ◆ Improve the distribution of grazing animals to enhance wildlife habitat, reduce over-used areas, or correct other resource concerns resulting from improper animal distribution.



Practice 576



Low Tunnel Systems (821)

Definition

An enclosed polyethylene, polycarbonate, plastic, or fabric covered structure that is used to cover and protect crops from sun, wind, excessive rainfall, or cold, and to extend the growing season or to reduce pest pressure.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Improve plant productivity and health
- ♦ Reduce plant pest pressure

Mulching (484)

Definition

Applying plant residues or other suitable materials to the land surface.

Purpose

To achieve the following purpose(s):

- ♦ Improve the efficiency of moisture management
- ♦ Reduce irrigation energy used in farming/ranching practices and field operations
- ♦ Improve the efficient use of irrigation water
- ♦ Prevent excessive bank erosion from water conveyance channels
- ♦ Reduce concentrated flow erosion
- ♦ Reduce sheet, rill, and wind erosion
- ♦ Improve plant productivity and health
- ♦ Maintain or increase organic matter content
- ♦ Reduce emissions of particulate matter



Nutrient Management (590)

Definition

Manage rate, source, placement, and timing of plant nutrients and soil amendments while reducing environmental impacts.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve plant health and productivity
- ♦ Reduce excess nutrients in surface and ground water
- ♦ Reduce emissions of objectionable odors
- ♦ Reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors
- ♦ Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG)
- ♦ Reduce emissions of ozone precursors
- ♦ Reduce the risk of potential pathogens from manure, biosolids, or compost application from reaching surface and ground water
- ♦ Improve or maintain soil organic matter



Practice 590

Organic Management (823)

Definition

Managing and improving natural resources on land in and adjacent to organic production using methods which integrate cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve soil health
- ♦ Reduce soil erosion
- ♦ Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG)
- ♦ Reduce transport of pesticides and nutrients transported to surface water, groundwater and air
- ♦ Improve moisture management
- ♦ Improve plant productivity and health
- ♦ Reduce plant pest pressure
- ♦ Enhance habitat for wildlife, pollinators, and other beneficial invertebrates
- ♦ Improve livestock feed and forage imbalance
- ♦ Improve or maintain quantity and/or quality of forage for grazing, browsing and productivity



Practice 823



Practice 512

Pasture and Hay Planting (512)

Definition

Establishing adapted and compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of perennial herbaceous plants suitable for pasture or hay production.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Improve or maintain livestock nutrition and health
- ♦ Provide or increase forage supply during periods of low forage production
- ♦ Reduce soil erosion
- ♦ Improve water quality
- ♦ Improve air quality
- ♦ Improve soil health

Pest Management Conservation System (595)

Definition

A system that combines an integrated pest management (IPM) decision-making process with natural resource conservation to address pest and environmental impacts.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Reduce plant pest pressure
- ♦ Reduce injury to beneficial organisms
- ♦ Reduce transport of pesticides to surface and ground water
- ♦ Reduce emissions of particulate matter (PM) and PM precursors (chemical droplet drift)
- ♦ Reduce emissions of ozone precursors (pesticide volatilizations)



Practice 595



Practice 378

Pond (378)

Definition

A pond is a water impoundment made by constructing an embankment, by excavating a dugout, or by a combination of both. In this standard, NRCS defines ponds constructed by the first method as embankment ponds, and those constructed by the second method as excavated ponds. Ponds constructed by both the excavation and the embankment methods are classified as embankment ponds if the depth of water impounded against the embankment at the auxiliary spillway elevation is 3 feet or more above the lowest original ground along the centerline of the embankment.

Purpose

A pond stores water for livestock, fish and wildlife, recreation, fire control, erosion control, flow detention, and other uses such as improving water quality.

- ♦ The failure of the dam will not result in loss of life; damage to homes, commercial or industrial buildings, main highways, or railroads; or in interruption of the use or service of public utilities.
- ♦ The product of the storage times the effective height of the dam is less than 3,000 acre-feet². Storage is the capacity of the reservoir in acre-feet below—either the elevation of the crest of the lowest auxiliary spillway or the elevation of the top of the dam if there is no open channel auxiliary spillway. The effective height of the dam is the difference in elevation, in feet, between the lowest open channel auxiliary spillway crest and the lowest point in the original cross section taken on the centerline of the dam. If there is no open channel auxiliary spillway, use the lowest point on the top of the dam instead of the lowest open channel auxiliary spillway crest.
- ♦ The effective height of the dam is 25 feet or less.

Pond Sealing or Lining, Compacted Soil Treatment (520)

Definition

A liner for an impoundment constructed using compacted soil with or without soil amendments.

Purpose

To reduce seepage losses from impoundments constructed for water conservation and environmental protection.

- ♦ In-place natural soils have excessive seepage rates, and
- ♦ An adequate quantity and type of soil suitable for constructing a compacted soil liner without amendments is available, or
- ♦ An adequate quantity and type of soil suitable for treatment with a soil dispersant or bentonite amendment is available for an amended soil liner.



Practice 520

Pond Sealing or Lining, Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner (521)

Definition

A liner for a water, wastewater, salt, manure, or similar agricultural by-product impoundment constructed using a geomembrane or a geosynthetic clay material.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce seepage losses from an impoundment for water conservation, including for irrigation or for providing water for livestock
- ♦ Reduce pollution to surface and groundwater, including potential drinking water sources
- ♦ Protect soil and water from contaminants or erosion



Precision Land Forming and Smoothing (462)

Definition

Reshaping the surface of land to planned grades.

Purpose

Improve surface drainage and control erosion.

This practice applies to all land where soils will be of sufficient depth and of suitable textures so that after completing precision land forming, an adequate root zone remains to permit the planned use of the land and the application of proper conservation measures, soil amendments, and fertilizer.



Prescribed Burning (338)

Definition

Planned fire applied to a predetermined area.

Purpose

- ♦ Manage undesirable vegetation to improve plant community structure and composition
- ♦ Manage pests, pathogens, and diseases to reduce plant pressure
- ♦ Reduce wildfire hazards from biomass accumulation
- ♦ Improve terrestrial habitat for wildlife and invertebrates
- ♦ Improve plant and seed production, quantity, and/or quality
- ♦ Facilitate distribution of grazing and browsing animals to improve forage-animal balance
- ♦ Improve and maintain habitat for soil organisms and enhance soil health





Practice 528

Prescribed Grazing (528)

Definition

Managing the harvest of vegetation with grazing and/or browsing animals with the intent to achieve specific ecological, economic, and management objectives.

Purpose

- ◆ Improve or maintain desired species composition and vigor of plant communities
- ◆ Improve or maintain quantity and quality of forage for grazing
- ◆ Improve or maintain surface and/or subsurface water quality and quantity
- ◆ Improve or maintain riparian and watershed function
- ◆ Reduce soil erosion, and maintain or improve soil health
- ◆ Improve or maintain the quantity, quality, or connectivity of food and/or cover available for wildlife
- ◆ Manage fine fuel loads to achieve desired conditions

Pumping Plant (533)

Definition

A facility that delivers water or wastewater at a designed pressure and flow rate.

Purpose

- ◆ Deliver water for improved plant condition, livestock, or wetlands
- ◆ Remove excessive subsurface or surface water
- ◆ Provide efficient use of water on irrigated land
- ◆ Transfer of livestock waste or liquid byproducts as part of a wastewater transfer system
- ◆ Reduce energy use

The pumping plant includes one or more pumps and associated power units, plumbing, and appurtenances, and may include pressure tanks, onsite fuel or energy source, and protective structures.



Practice 533

Raised Beds (812)

Definition

Create an above ground growing environment.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce concentration of salts or other chemicals in the soil that limit the desired use
- ♦ Reduce field operation-induced particulate emissions within the raised bed footprint
- ♦ Increase plant health and productivity



Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329)

Definition

Limiting soil disturbance to manage the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and plant residue on the soil surface year around.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce sheet, rill, and wind erosion and excessive sediment in surface waters
- ♦ Reduce tillage-induced particulate emissions
- ♦ Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content
- ♦ Increase plant-available moisture
- ♦ Reduce energy use
- ♦ Provide food and escape cover for wildlife



Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345)

Definition

Managing the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residue on the soil surface year-round while limiting the soil-disturbing activities used to grow and harvest crops in systems where the entire field surface is tilled prior to planting.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce sheet, rill, and wind erosion and excessive sediment in surface waters
- ♦ Reduce tillage-induced particulate emissions
- ♦ Improve soil health and maintain or increase organic matter content
- ♦ Reduce energy use





Practice 643

Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities (643)

Definition

Restoring, conserving, and managing unique or diminishing native terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

Purpose

To return aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems to their original or usable and functioning condition and to improve biodiversity by providing and maintaining habitat for fish and wildlife species associated with the ecosystem.

This practice applies for sites or areas that once supported or currently support a unique, dwindling, or imperiled native plant and animal community.

Riparian Forest Buffer (391)

Definition

An area predominantly covered by trees and/or shrubs located adjacent to and up-gradient from a watercourse or water body.

Purpose

- ◆ Reduce transport of sediment to surface water, and reduce transport of pathogens, chemicals, pesticides, and nutrients to surface and ground water
- ◆ Improve the quantity and quality of terrestrial and aquatic habitat for wildlife, invertebrate species, fish, and other organisms
- ◆ Maintain or increase total carbon stored in soils and/or perennial biomass to reduce atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases
- ◆ Lower elevated stream water temperatures
- ◆ Restore diversity, structure, and composition of riparian plant communities

Apply riparian forest buffers on areas adjacent to permanent or intermittent streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands where channels and streambanks are sufficiently stable.



Practice 391

Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)

Definition

Grasses, sedges, rushes, ferns, legumes, and forbs tolerant of intermittent flooding or saturated soils, established or managed as the dominant vegetation in the transitional zone between upland and aquatic habitats.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Provide or improve food and cover for fish, wildlife and livestock
- ◆ Improve and maintain water quality
- ◆ Establish and maintain habitat corridors
- ◆ Increase water storage on floodplains
- ◆ Reduce erosion and improve stability to stream banks and shorelines
- ◆ Increase net carbon storage in the biomass and soil
- ◆ Enhance pollen, nectar, and nesting habitat for pollinators
- ◆ Restore, improve or maintain the desired plant communities
- ◆ Dissipate stream energy and trap sediment
- ◆ Enhance stream bank protection as part of stream bank soil bioengineering practices



Roof Runoff Structure (558)

Definition

A structure that will collect, control, and convey precipitation from a roof.

Purpose

To achieve one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Protect surface water quality by excluding roof runoff from contaminated areas
- ◆ Protect a structure foundation from water damage or soil erosion from excess water runoff
- ◆ Increase infiltration of runoff water
- ◆ Capture water for other uses





Practice 367

Roofs and Covers (367)

Definition

A rigid, semirigid, or flexible manufactured membrane, composite material, or roof structure placed over a waste management facility, agrichemical handling facility, or an on-farm secondary containment facility.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Protect clean water from dilution in wastewater in an existing or planned animal waste handling or storage area
- ♦ Improve waste management and utilization to protect nearby surface water quality
- ♦ Capture biogas emissions from an existing or planned animal waste storage facility to reduce the net effect of greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and reduce odor as a result of:
 - Biological treatment with composite cover material
 - Combustion by flare
 - Combustion by engine generator for energy production
 - Protect clean water by excluding it from a chemically contaminated area

This practice applies where:

- ♦ Precipitation should be excluded from contaminated areas, such as animal feeding and management areas, facilities for waste storage, animal mortality, composting, waste transfer or waste treatment, and agrichemical handling.
- ♦ Biotreatment of emissions using a porous cover on a wastewater storage facility is needed to improve air quality, limit odors, and moderate the net effect of greenhouse gas emissions.
- ♦ A cover is needed to exclude precipitation from a wastewater storage facility. Auxiliary elements of the cover will also capture and manage biogas emissions, improve air quality, limit odors, and reduce the net effect of greenhouse gas emissions.
- ♦ Biogas capture for energy production is a component of an existing or planned waste management system. Biogas capture and utilization will also improve air quality, limit odors, and reduce the net effect of greenhouse gas emissions.



Practice 350

Sediment Basin (350)

Definition

A basin constructed with an engineered outlet, formed by constructing an embankment, excavating a dugout, or a combination of both.

Purpose

To capture and detain sediment-laden runoff, or other debris for a sufficient length of time to allow it to settle out in the basin

Shallow Water Development and Management (646)

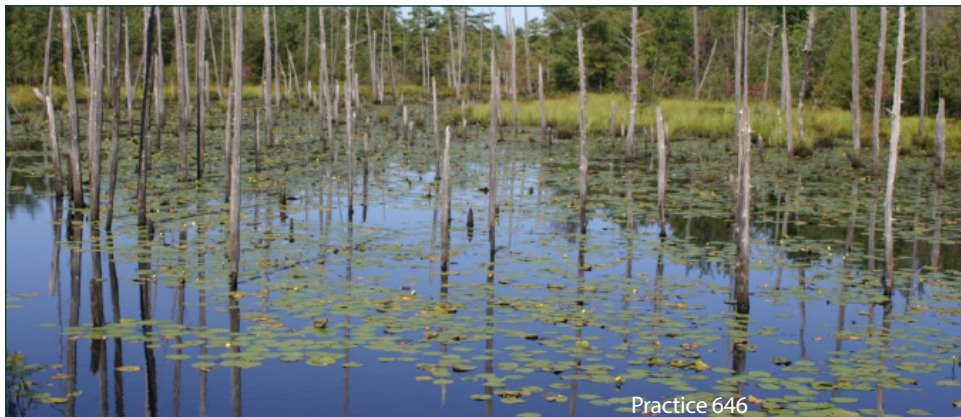
Definition

The inundation of lands to provide habitat for fish and/or wildlife.

Purpose

To provide habitat for wildlife such as shorebirds, waterfowl, wading birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and other species that require shallow water for at least a part of their life cycle.

On lands where water can be impounded or regulated by diking, excavating, ditching, and/or flooding. On floodplain areas that provide refuge habitats for native fish during high flow periods.



Practice 646



Short Term Storage of Animal Waste and By-Products (318)

Definition

Temporary, nonstructural measures used to store solid or semisolid organic agricultural waste or manure (stackable livestock and poultry manure, bedding, litter, spilled feed, or soil mixed with manure) on a short-term basis between collection and utilization.

Purpose

- ♦ Temporarily stockpile or store manure in an environmentally safe manner for improved nutrient utilization and conservation.
- ♦ Provide the agricultural operation management greater flexibility in nutrient utilization.
- ♦ Protect surface and groundwater resources.

This practice applies where a comprehensive nutrient management plan (CNMP) or a nutrient management plan (NMP) has been developed and where a temporary stockpile or storage is needed.

Silvopasture (381)

Definition

Establishment and/or management of desired trees and forages on the same land unit.

Purpose

- ♦ Provide forage, shade, and/or shelter for livestock
- ♦ Improve the productivity and health of trees/shrubs and forages
- ♦ Improve water quality
- ♦ Reduce erosion
- ♦ Enhance wildlife habitat
- ♦ Improve biological diversity
- ♦ Improve soil quality
- ♦ Increase carbon sequestration and storage
- ♦ Provide for beneficial organisms and pollinators



Practice 381

Sinkhole Treatment (527)

Definition

The treatment of sinkholes in karst areas to reduce contamination of groundwater resources, and/or to improve farm safety.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve ground and surface water quality
- ♦ Conserve soil and surface water resources
- ♦ Improve farm safety

This practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system in karst topography which is an area underlain by carbonate or sulfate bedrock (e.g., limestone, dolomite, gypsum) which may form solution depressions (e.g., sinkholes), caverns, or solution subsidence (e.g., areas of non-soluble rocks that may collapse into underlying solution cavities).



Practice 527

Soil Carbon Amendment (336)

Definition

Application of carbon-based amendments derived from plant materials or treated animal byproducts.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Improve or maintain soil organic matter.
- ♦ Sequester carbon and enhance soil carbon (C) stocks.
- ♦ Improve soil aggregate stability.
- ♦ Improve habitat for soil organisms.



Practice 336

Spring Development (574)

Definition

The collection and use of water from seeps or springs.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Improve water quantity for livestock and wildlife
- ◆ Improve water quality for livestock and wildlife



Practice 574

Sprinkler System (442)

Definition

A distribution system that applies water by means of nozzles operated under pressure.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following:

- ◆ Efficient and uniform application of water on irrigated lands
- ◆ Improve plant condition, productivity, health and vigor
- ◆ Prevent the entry of excessive nutrients, organics, and other chemicals in surface and groundwater
- ◆ Improve condition of soil contaminated with salts and other chemicals
- ◆ Reduce particulate matter emissions to improve air quality
- ◆ Reduce energy use



Practice 442

Stream Crossing (578)

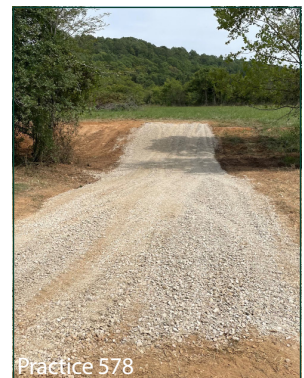
Definition

A stabilized area or structure constructed across a stream to provide controlled access for people, livestock, equipment, or vehicles.

Purpose

This practice is applied to:

- ◆ Improve water quality by reducing sediment, nutrient, or organic loading to a stream
- ◆ Reduce streambank and streambed erosion



Practice 578

Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)

Definition

Maintain, improve, or restore physical, chemical, and biological functions of a stream, and its associated riparian zone, necessary for meeting the life history requirements of desired aquatic species.

Purpose

- ◆ Provide suitable habitat for desired fish and other aquatic species
- ◆ Provide stream channel and associated riparian conditions that maintain stream corridor ecological processes and hydrological connections of diverse stream habitat types important to aquatic species



Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)

Definition

Treatment(s) used to stabilize and protect banks of streams or constructed channels and shorelines of lakes, reservoirs, or estuaries.

Purpose

- ◆ Prevent the loss of land or damage to land uses or facilities adjacent to the banks of streams or constructed channels and shorelines of lakes, reservoirs, or estuaries. This includes the protection of known historical, archaeological, and traditional cultural properties
- ◆ Maintain the flow capacity of streams or channels
- ◆ Reduce the offsite or downstream effects of sediment resulting from bank erosion
- ◆ Improve or enhance the stream corridor or shoreline for fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetics, or recreation





Structure for Water Control (587)

Definition

A structure in a water management system that conveys water, controls the direction or rate of flow, maintains a desired water surface elevation or measures water.

Purpose

The practice may be applied as a management component of a water management system to control the stage, discharge, distribution, delivery, or direction of water flow.

Structures for Wildlife (649)

Definition

A structure installed to replace or modify a missing or deficient wildlife habitat component.

Purpose

To provide structures, in proper amounts, locations and seasons to:

- ◆ Enhance or sustain non-domesticated wildlife; or
- ◆ Modify existing structures that pose a hazard to wildlife



Surface Drain, Field Ditch (607)

Definition

A graded channel on the field surface for collecting and conveying excess water.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Intercept excess surface and shallow subsurface water from a field, conveying it to a surface main or lateral
- ◆ Collect excess irrigation water for a tailwater reuse system



Surface Drain, Main or Lateral (608)

Definition

An open drainage ditch for moving the excess water collected by a field ditch or subsurface drain to a safe outlet.

Purpose

- ♦ To convey excess surface or shallow subsurface water from a field ditch to a safe outlet
- ♦ To convey excess subsurface water from a subsurface drain to a safe outlet



Trails and Walkways (575)

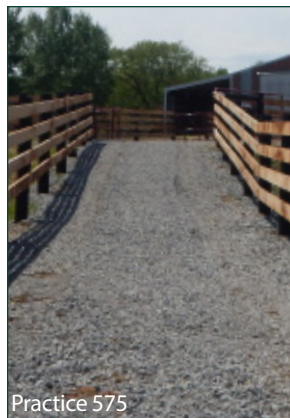
Definition

A constructed path with a vegetated, earthen, gravel, paved, or other hard surface to facilitate the movement of animals, people, or off-road vehicles.

Purpose

To accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ◆ Provide or improve animal access to forage, water, working/handling facilities, or shelter
- ◆ Protect ecologically sensitive, erosive, or potentially erosive sites
- ◆ Provide pedestrian or off-road vehicle access for agricultural, construction, or maintenance operations
- ◆ Provide trails or walkways for recreational activities or access to recreation sites



Practice 575

Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Definition

Establishing woody plants by planting seedlings or cuttings, direct seeding, or natural regeneration.

Purpose

- ◆ Maintain or improve desirable plant diversity, productivity, and health by establishing woody plants
- ◆ Improve water quality by reducing excess nutrients and other pollutants in runoff and groundwater
- ◆ Restore or maintain native plant communities
- ◆ Control erosion
- ◆ Create or improve habitat for desired wildlife species, beneficial organisms, or pollinator species compatible with ecological characteristics of the site
- ◆ Sequester and store carbon
- ◆ Conserve energy
- ◆ Provide livestock shelter



Practice 612

Tree/Shrub Pruning (660)

Definition

The removal of all or part of selected branches, leaders, or roots from trees and shrubs.

Purpose

- ◆ Maintain or improve plant productivity, health, and vigor
- ◆ Reduce excessive plant pest pressure
- ◆ Develop desired plant structure, foliage or branching density, or rooting length
- ◆ Improve the composition and vigor of understory plants
- ◆ Reduce wildfire and safety hazards



Practice 660

Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490)

Definition

Treatment of sites to enhance the success of natural or artificial regeneration of desired trees and/or shrubs.

Purpose

- ♦ Manage soil conditions, naturally available water, and seasonally high water to favor tree and shrub establishment, survival, and growth
- ♦ Modify the habitat of weeds, pests, and diseases to reduce pressure on naturally or artificially regenerated trees and shrubs
- ♦ Facilitate the establishment, survival, and growth of tree and shrub species



Practice 490Aste

Underground Outlet (620)

Definition

A conduit or system of conduits installed beneath the ground surface to convey surface water to a suitable outlet.

Purpose

- ♦ Prevent concentrated flow erosion
- ♦ Manage flooding and ponding

Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Definition

Provide and manage upland habitats and connectivity within the landscape for wildlife.

Purpose

Treating upland wildlife habitat concerns identified during the conservation planning process that enable movement, or provide shelter, cover, food in proper amounts, locations and times to sustain wild animals that inhabit uplands during a portion of their life cycle.



Practice 620



Practice 645

Vegetated Treatment Area (635)

Definition

An area of permanent vegetation used for agricultural wastewater treatment.

Purpose

Improve water quality by using vegetation to reduce the loading of nutrients, organics, pathogens, and other contaminants associated with livestock, poultry, and other agricultural operations

- ♦ A vegetated treatment area (VTA) can be constructed, operated and maintained to treat contaminated runoff from such areas as feedlots, feed storage, compost areas, solid manure storage areas, barnyards, and other livestock holding areas; or to treat process wastewater from agricultural operations.
- ♦ A VTA is a component of a planned agricultural waste management system.



Vegetative Barrier (601)

Definition

Permanent strips of stiff, dense vegetation established along the general contour of slopes or across concentrated flow areas.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce sheet and rill erosion
- ♦ Reduce ephemeral gully erosion
- ♦ Manage water flow
- ♦ Stabilize steep slopes
- ♦ Trap sediment



Waste Facility Closure (360)

Definition

The decommissioning of facilities, and/or the rehabilitation of contaminated soil, in an environmentally safe manner, where agricultural waste has been handled, treated, and/or stored and is no longer used for the intended purpose.

Purpose

- ♦ Protect the quality of surface water and groundwater resources
- ♦ Mitigate air emissions
- ♦ Eliminate a safety hazard for humans and livestock
- ♦ Safeguard the public health



Waste Separation Facility (632)

Definition

A filtration or screening device, settling tank, settling basin, or settling channel used to partition solids and/or nutrients from a waste stream.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve or protect air quality
- ♦ Improve or protect water quality
- ♦ Improve manure handling methods or serve as a pre- or post-treatment for other processes



Practice 632



Practice 313

Waste Storage Facility (313)

Definition

A waste storage impoundment made by constructing an embankment and/or excavating a pit or dugout, or by fabricating a structure.

Purpose

To temporarily store wastes such as manure, wastewater, and contaminated runoff as a storage function component of an agricultural waste management system.

Waste Transfer (634)

Definition

A system using structures, pipes, or conduits installed to convey wastes or waste byproducts from the agricultural production site to storage/treatment or application.

Purpose

To transfer agricultural waste material associated with production, processing, and harvesting to:

- ♦ A storage facility
- ♦ A treatment facility
- ♦ A handling or loading area
- ♦ Agricultural land for agronomic application



Practice 634

Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

Definition

An earth embankment or a combination ridge and channel constructed across the slope of a minor drainageway.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce gully erosion
- ♦ Trap sediment
- ♦ Reduce and manage runoff



Practice 638

Water Well (642)

Definition

A hole drilled, dug, driven, bored, jetted, or otherwise constructed into an aquifer for agricultural water supply.

Purpose

- ♦ Address the need for adequate livestock water quality and quantity
- ♦ Provide water for terrestrial wildlife
- ♦ Provide irrigation water



Practice 642

Watering Facility (614)

Definition

A watering facility stores or provides drinking water to livestock or wildlife.

Purpose

This practice is used to accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- ♦ Supply daily water requirements
- ♦ Improve animal distribution
- ♦ Provide a water source that is an alternative to a sensitive resource

This practice applies to all land uses where there is a need for a watering facility for livestock or wildlife, where there is a source of water that is adequate in quantity and quality for the purpose, and where soils and topography are suitable for a facility.



Practice 614

Well Decommissioning (351)

Definition

The sealing and permanent closure of an inactive, abandoned, or unusable water or monitoring well.

Purpose

- ♦ Protect ground water from surface water contamination
- ♦ Protect the aquifer water quality
- ♦ Restore the natural hydrogeologic conditions



Practice 351

Wetland Enhancement (659)

Definition

The augmentation of wetland functions beyond the original natural conditions on a former, degraded, or naturally functioning wetland site; sometimes at the expense of other functions.

Purpose

- ♦ To enhance hydric soil functions (changing soil hydrodynamic and/or bio-geochemical properties)
- ♦ To enhance wetland hydrology (dominant water source, hydroperiod, and hydrodynamics)
- ♦ To enhance vegetation (including the removal of undesired species, and/or seeding or planting of desired species)
- ♦ To enhance plant and animal habitats



Practice 659

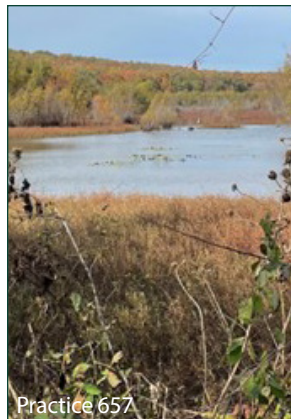
Wetland Restoration (657)

Definition

The return of a wetland and its functions to a close approximation of its original condition as it existed prior to disturbance on a former or degraded wetland site.

Purpose

- ♦ To restore wetland function, value, habitat, diversity, and capacity to a close approximation of the pre-disturbance conditions by restoring
- ♦ Conditions conducive to hydric soil maintenance
- ♦ Wetland hydrology (dominant water source, hydroperiod, and hydrodynamics).
- ♦ Native hydrophytic vegetation (including the removal of undesired species, and/or seeding or planting of desired species)
- ♦ Original fish and wildlife habitats



Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (644)

Definition

Retaining, developing, or managing wetland habitat for wetland wildlife.

Purpose

To maintain, develop, or improve wetland habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, fur-bearers, or other wetland dependent or associated flora and fauna.

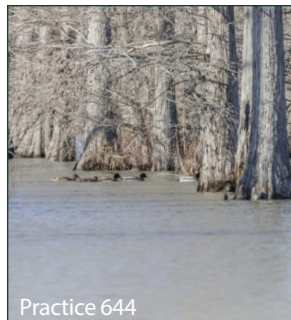
Wildlife Habitat Planting (420)

Definition

Establishing wildlife habitat by planting herbaceous vegetation or shrubs.

Purpose

- ♦ Improve degraded wildlife habitat for the target wildlife species or guild
- ♦ Establish wildlife habitat that resembles the historic, desired, and reference native plant community



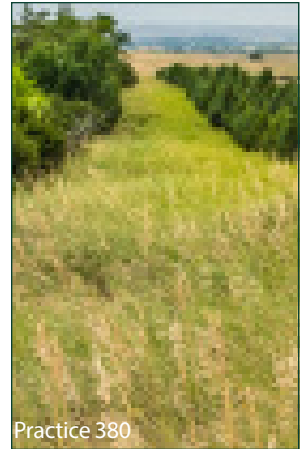
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation (380)

Definition

Establishing, enhancing, or renovating windbreaks, also known as shelterbelts, which are single or multiple rows of trees and/or shrubs in linear or curvilinear configurations.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce soil erosion from wind
- ♦ Enhance plant health and productivity by protecting plants from wind-related damage
- ♦ Manage snow distribution to improve moisture utilization by plants
- ♦ Manage snow distribution to reduce obstacles, ponding, and flooding that impacts other resources, animals, structures, and humans
- ♦ Improve moisture management by reducing transpiration and evaporation losses and improving irrigation efficiency
- ♦ Provide shelter from wind, snow, and excessive heat, to protect animals, structures, and humans
- ♦ Improve air quality by intercepting airborne particulate matter, chemicals, and odors, and/or by reducing airflow across contaminant or dust sources
- ♦ Reduce energy use in heating and cooling buildings, and in relocating snow
- ♦ Increase carbon storage in biomass and soils



Practice 380

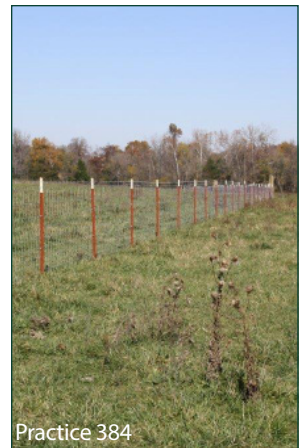
Woody Residue Treatment (384)

Definition

The treatment of residual woody material that is created due to management activities or natural disturbances.

Purpose

- ♦ Reduce hazardous fuels
- ♦ Reduce the risk of harmful insects and disease
- ♦ Protect/maintain air quality by reducing the risk of wildfire
- ♦ To improve access for management purposes
- ♦ Improve access to forage for livestock and wildlife
- ♦ Develop renewable energy systems
- ♦ Enhance aesthetics
- ♦ Reduce the risk of harm to humans and livestock
- ♦ Improve the soil organic matter
- ♦ Improve the site for natural or artificial regeneration



Practice 384

Land Use Table

Conservation Practices		Land Uses				
		Crop	Forest	Pasture	Farmstead	Associated Ag. Land
Access Control	472	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Access Road	560	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Agrichemical Handling Facility	309	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Amending Soil Properties with Gypsum Products	333	C		P		
Amending Soil Properties with Lime	805	C		P		AAL
Amendments for Treatment of Agricultural Waste	591	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Animal Mortality Facility	316			P	FS	
Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Application	450	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Annual Forages for Grazing Systems	810	C		P		
Aquatic Organism Passage	396	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Brush Management	314		F	P		AAL
Combustion System Improvement	372	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Composting Facility	317				FS	
Conservation Cover	327	C	F		FS	AAL
Conservation Crop Rotation	328	C				
Constructed Wetland	656	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Contour Buffer Strips	332	C				
Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crops	331	C				
Controlled Traffic Farming	334	C		P		
Cover Crop	340	C	F	P		AAL
Critical Area Planting	342	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Deep Tillage	324	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Dike and Levee	356	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Diversion	362	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Early Successional Habitat Development	647	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Emergency Animal Mortality Management	368				FS	
Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation	374	C	F	P		
Energy Efficient Building Envelope	672				FS	
Energy Efficient Lighting System	670				FS	
Fence	382	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Field Border	386	C		P		
Field Operations Emissions Reduction	376	C	F	P		AAL
Filter Strip	393	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Firebreak	394	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Forage Harvest Management	511	C		P		
Forest Stand Improvement	666		F	P		
Fuel Break	383		F		FS	
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Grassed Waterway	412	C		P	FS	AAL
Groundwater Testing	355	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Heavy Use Area Protection	561	C	F	P	FS	AAL
Hedgerow Planting	422	C		P	FS	AAL
Herbaceous Weed Treatment	315		F	P	FS	AAL
Herbaceous Wind Barriers	603	C				
High Tunnel System	325	C				

Irrigation and Drainage Tailwater Recovery	447	C	F	P	FS	AL
Irrigation Land Leveling	464	C	F	P	FS	AL
Irrigation Pipeline	430	C	F	P	FS	AL
Irrigation Reservoir	436	C	F	P	FS	AL
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	441	C	F	P	FS	AL
Irrigation System, Surface & Subsurface	443	C	F	P	FS	AL
Irrigation Water Management	449	C	F	P	FS	AL
Lined Waterway or Outlet	468	C	F	P	FS	AL
Livestock Pipeline	516	C	F	P	FS	AL
Livestock Shelter Structure	576		F	P	FS	
Low Tunnel Systems	821	C			FS	
Mulching	484	C	F	P	FS	AL
Nutrient Management	590	C	F	P	FS	AL
Organic Management	823					
Pasture and Hay Planting	512	C		P		
Pest Management Conservation System	595	C	F	P	FS	AL
Pond	378	C	F	P	FS	AL
Pond Sealing or Lining-Compacted Soil	520	C	F	P	FS	AL
Pond Sealing or Lining-Geomembrane or Geosynthetic Clay Liner	521	C	F	P	FS	AL
Precision Land Forming and Smoothing	462	C		P	FS	
Prescribed Burning	338	C	F	P		AL
Prescribed Grazing	528	C	F	P	FS	AL
Pumping Plant	533	C	F	P	FS	
Raised Beds	812	C			FS	
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till	329	C		P		
Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till	345	C		P		
Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities	643	C	F	P	FS	AL
Riparian Forest Buffer	391	C	F	P	FS	AL
Riparian Herbaceous Cover	390	C	F	P	FS	AL
Roof Runoff Structure	558				FS	
Roofs and Covers	367				FS	
Sediment Basin	350	C	F	P	FS	AL
Shallow Water Development and Management	646	C	F	P	FS	AL
Short Term Storage of Animal Waste and Byproducts	318				FS	
Silvopasture	381		F	P		
Sinkhole Treatment	527	C	F	P	FS	AL
Soil Carbon Amendment	336	C	F	P	FS	AL
Spring Development	574	C	F	P	FS	AL
Sprinkler System	442	C	F	P	FS	AL
Stream Crossing	578	C	F	P	FS	AL
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management	395	C	F	P	FS	AL
Streambank and Shoreline Protection	580	C	F	P	FS	AL
Structure for Water Control	587	C	F	P	FS	AL
Structures for Wildlife	649	C	F	P	FS	AL
Surface Drainage, Field Ditch	607	C	F	P	FS	AL
Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral	608	C	F	P	FS	AL
Trails and Walkways	575	C	F	P	FS	AL
Tree/Shrub Establishment	612	C	F	P	FS	AL
Tree/Shrub Pruning	660	C	F	P	FS	AL

Tree/Shrub Site Preparation	490	C	F	P	FS	AL
Underground Outlet	620	C	F	P	FS	AL
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	645	C	F	P	FS	AL
Vegetated Treatment Area	635	C		P	FS	
Vegetative Barrier	601	C	F	P	FS	AL
Waste Facility Closure	360				FS	
Waste Separation Facility	632				FS	
Waste Storage Facility	313				FS	
Waste Transfer	634				FS	
Water and Sediment Control Basin	638	C	F	P	FS	AL
Water Harvesting Catchment	636					
Water Well	642	C	F	P	FS	AL
Watering Facility	614	C	F	P	FS	AL
Well Decommissioning	351	C	F	P	FS	AL
Wetland Enhancement	659	C	F	P		AL
Wetland Restoration	657	C	F	P		AL
Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	644	C	F	P	FS	AL
Wildlife Habitat Planting	420	C	F	P	FS	AL
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation	380	C		P	FS	AL
Woody Residue Treatment	384	C	F	P	FS	AL

County/Field Service Center Index

County	Field Service Center	Phone
Arkansas	DeWitt Field Service Center	(870) 946-3331
Ashley	Hamburg Field Service Center	(870) 853-9881
Baxter	Mountain Home Field Service Center	(870) 425-3527
Benton	Bentonville Field Service Center	(479) 273-2622
Boone	Harrison Field and Technical Service Centers	(870) 741-8600
Bradley	Warren Field Service Center and L'Aigle Creek Conservation District	(870) 226-6751
Calhoun	Calhoun County Conservation District	(870) 798-4297
Carroll	Berryville Field Service Center	(870) 423-2638
Chicot	Lake Village Field Service Center	(870) 265-2608
Clark	Arkadelphia Field Service Center	(870) 246-9816
Clay	Piggott Field Service Center	(870) 598-2287
Cleburne	Heber Springs Field Service Center	(501) 362-2628
Cleveland	Cleveland County Conservation District	(870) 325-6581
Columbia	Columbia County Conservation District	(870) 235-5270
Conway	Morrilton Field Service Center	(501) 354-2000
Craighead	Jonesboro Field and Technical Service Centers	(870) 972-4671
Crawford	Crawford County Conservation District	(501) 474-2281
Crittenden	Marion Field Service Center	(870) 739-4464
Cross	Wynne Field Service Center	(870) 238-3285
Dallas	Fordyce Field Service Center	(870) 352-2630
Desha	McGehee Field Service Center	(870) 222-4867
Drew	Monticello Field and Technical Service Centers	(870) 367-8400
Faulkner	Conway Field Service Center	(501) 327-6509
Franklin	Ozark Field Service Center	(479) 667-8600
Fulton	Salem Field Service Center	(870) 895-3201
Garland	Hot Springs Field Service Center	(501) 624-2574
Grant	Grant County Conservation District	(870) 942-2826
Greene	Paragould Field Service Center	(870) 239-8586
Hempstead	Hope Field and Technical Service Centers and Construction Office	(870) 777-8800
Hot Spring	Malvern Field Service Center	(501) 337-7381
Howard	Nashville Field Service Center and Mine Creek Soiland Water Conservation District	(870) 845-4121
Independence	Batesville Field Service Center	(870) 793-4164
Izard	Melbourne Field Service Center	(870) 368-4413
Jackson	Newport Field Service Center	(870) 523-8986
Jefferson	Pine Bluff Field Service Center	(870) 534-3200
Johnson	Clarksville Field Service Center	(479) 754-2800
Lafayette	Lewisville Field Service Center	(870) 921-4206
Lawrence	Walnut Ridge Field Service Center	(870) 886-7791

County/Field Service Center Index

County	Field Service Center	Phone
Lee	Marianna Field Service Center	(870) 295-5211
Lincoln	Star City Field Service Center	(870) 628-4542
Little River	Ashdown Field Service Center	(870) 898-3611
Logan	Paris Field Service Center	(479) 963-2612
Lonoke	Lonoke Field Service Center	(501) 676-5116
Madison	Huntsville Field Service Center	(479) 738-6321
Marion	Crooked Creek Soil and Water Conservation District	(870) 449-6356
Miller	Texarkana Field Service Center	(870) 773-3531
Mississippi	Osceola Field Service Center	(870) 563-3207
Monroe	Clarendon Field Service Center	(870) 747-3431
Montgomery	Montgomery County Conservation District	(870) 867-2671
Nevada	Nevada County Conservation District	(870) 887-3210
Newton	Newton County Conservation District	(870) 446-2236
Ouachita	Camden Field and Technical Service Centers	(870) 836-2089
Perry	Perry County Conservation District	(501) 889-2715
Phillips	Helena Field Service Center	(870) 338-6651
Pike	Pike County Conservation District	(870) 285-2424
Poinsett	Harrisburg Field Service Center	(870) 578-2444
Polk	Mena Field Service Center and Rich Mountain Conservation District	(479) 394-1782
Pope	Russellville Field Service Center	(479) 968-3881
Prairie	Hazen Field and Technical Service Centers	(870) 255-3573
Pulaski	North Little Rock Field Service Center	(501) 758-2544
Randolph	Pocahontas Field Service Center	(870) 892-3325
Saline	Saline County Conservation District	(501) 778-2251
Scott	Poteau River Soil and Water Conservation District	(479) 637-3633
Searcy	Marshall Field Service Center/Buffalo Conservation District	(870) 448-3184
Sebastian	Ft. Smith Field and Technical Service Centers	(479) 646-8300
Sevier	DeQueen Field Service Center and Cossatot Conservation District	(870) 584-3111
Sharp	Ash Flat Field Service Center	(870) 994-7335
St. Francis	Forrest City Field Service Center	(870) 633-3055
Stone	Mountain View Field Service Center	(870) 269-3726
Union	Union County Conservation District	(870) 863-8634
Van Buren	Clinton Field Service Center	(501) 745-5161
Washington	Fayetteville Field Service Center	(479) 442-4160
White	Searcy Field Service Center	(501) 268-5866
Woodruff	Augusta Field Service Center	(870) 347-2593
Yell	Danville Field Service Center	(479) 495-2441

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