

WASTE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Waste Management System means a planned system in which all necessary components are installed for managing liquid and solid waste to prevent or minimize degradation of soil and water resources. (DIP) System components may include:

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Policies

1. N. C. Soil and Water Conservation Districts are not authorized to approve contracts on agricultural operations that are not in place and therefore are not causing a water quality problem.

The N. C. Soil and Water Conservation Commission reserves the authority to approve contracts on new operations and will review each contract developed on operations that were established less than 3 years prior to the date of cost share application.

2. If a Confined Animal Operation (CAO) is not meeting the 2H.0200 Non-discharge certification requirements and the most practical option is to move the animals

off the present site to a completely new site where .0200 can be met, this would not constitute a NEW operation under the Commission policy. This is considered the same as providing a Waste Management System for the existing operation. However, if a confined animal operation which meets the 2H.0200 Non-discharge certification requirements and the cooperators must move the operation because the property has been sold or the cooperator no longer is able to lease the property, then the operation is not eligible for cost share assistance.

3. **A statement, signed by the technician, certifying that the operation has an approved waste management plan is required for all contracts (see section VI for form NC-ACSP-WMP).** An approved waste management plan means a plan, signed by the cooperator and the technician, to properly collect, store, treat, and/or apply animal waste to the land in an environmentally safe manner. The waste management plan must follow NRCS standards and must be revised, if necessary, to meet any changes in the operation which alter the waste management needs of the operation.
4. With regard to approved waste management plans for operations receiving cost share funds the following requirements must be met:
 - a. A contract hauler is one who either buys the waste from the producer or is paid by the producer and charges other landowners to spread the waste on their land. If waste is being applied by a contract hauler, the name and address of the contract hauler must be included in the waste management plan.
 - b. A third party applicator is one who receives the waste from the producer and applies to someone else's land. If the waste is being applied by a third party applicator for the cooperator, a copy of maps of the fields to be applied and soil loss of these fields must be included in the waste management plan.
 - c. If waste is removed for closure or retrofitting by a licensed contractor who is paid for this service, the name and address of the contractor must be included in the waste management plan.
5. By signing the Cost Share Agreement (NC-ACSP-2), the cooperator and/or landowner acknowledges and agrees that they are responsible for the maintenance and/or replacement of all equipment cost shared as a component of waste management measure (s) at their expense and that any cost shared component will not be sold or used as collateral for the life of the practice must be included in the CPO.
6. To better coincide with the allowances under the Nondischarge rules, contracts for animal waste management systems can be pulled from the pending file in order to receive payment for one item in the contract (i.e. lagoons, holding ponds, dry stacks, etc.) even though a later-to-be-installed item (i.e. irrigation system) is Pending approval of engineer, Area Office or other.

7. Waste Management Systems not subject to .0200 certification will receive annual status reviews (spot checks) for five years following implementation. (see Rule 06E.0107(e) in Section IV of this manual.)
8. Silt fences are to be used only in conjunction with Animal Waste Management facilities and Sediment Control Structures. Silt fences and any retained sediment must be removed from the site once vegetation has been established. All silt fence installation shall conform to standards and specifications contained in the North Carolina Sedimentation Control Commission manual, "Erosion and Sediment Control Planning and Design Manual", section 6.62. Silt fence posts will be a maximum of 8 feet apart with fabric trenched in a minimum of 8 inches deep. All silt fences must be maintained in working order until satisfactory vegetation is established.
9. Cost share of earth fill is only allowed where it is necessary to haul fill material in dump trucks on public roads. It should not normally be used where fill is moved by scraper pans.
10. Technical staff shall have the responsibility for determining appropriate set backs for cost shared fencing in accordance with Agriculture Cost Share Program policy and NRCS standards as follows:
 - a. Cost shared tank, heavy use area, etc. is located a minimum of one hundred (100) feet from the top of the stream bank, the set back for cost shared fencing shall be ten (10) feet.
 - b. If stream riparian areas have been damaged or destroyed, then fencing should be set back far enough to permit establishment of woody vegetation on the stream banks.
 - c. If the stream bank or channel erosion is such that there exists the potential for the fence posts to be undermined by the stream during the life of the fence, then set backs should be increased significantly (field determination).
 - d. For all cost shared BMPs that require fencing, a statement indicating the set back distance from the stream bank must be included in the CPO. Also, the fencing set back distance should be indicated on the sketch included with the CPO. The sketch should also indicate the distance from the top of the bank to the tank, heavy use area, etc., if applicable. (Note: "Meets set back requirements" is not acceptable. Actual set back distances must be indicated.)
 - e. If significantly less fencing than planned in the CPO is cancelled, expires or is not installed, a statement signed by the technician must be submitted to the Division explaining why the fencing was not installed, why significantly less fencing was installed, or indicating that fencing was installed at the applicant's expense. The statement should indicate that a site visit was performed, along with the date of the site visit to establish the status of the required fencing. Failure to install required fencing constitutes non-compliance and procedure relative to non-compliance must be followed.

11. For waste management measures that include vegetation the following policies are applicable:
 - a. Fescue is used as base vegetation for establishing average cost. Other vegetative types may be used if they meet site specifications but must use base average cost developed for fescue.
 - b. Cooperator may use other than 10-10-10 fertilizers and the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program will pay 75% of \$.22 per lb. of plant food based on soil test.
 - c. Cost share payments for stripcropping or cropland conversion are limited to the bulk rate average cost.
 - d. Mulch includes the cost of materials and labor for installing any approved mulch material from the NC Technical Guide, Section IV, standard 342-II, at a rate of 2 tons per acre. Use of clean small grain straw is highly recommended. The average cost used is based on 125 bales of small grain straw per acre at 32 lbs. per bale. Hydro-mulch used by hydro-seeders is not to be used as a substitute for small grain mulch at any rate.
 - e. Where mulch netting is required, use as needed 10, 12, or 15 feet wide netting. The Area Office will decide if respective NRCS Area is approved to use 10 feet wide netting and overlap in channels exceeding 10 feet (any overlap must exceed 18 inches). Netting must be wide enough to cover at least 6 inches from the bottom of the waterway up the side slopes. Average cost includes cost of netting, staples, and labor for installation.
 - f. Where mulch is not required as a part of the vegetation, netting may be used at the discretion of the person planning the practice.
12. The CPO must include a detailed sketch of the structure/system that indicates the location of the stream system being protected.
13. In addition, the following components, if utilized in the waste management measure, must meet the indicated conditions and/or policies:
 - a. Collection tanks for temporary storage and transfer of liquid animal waste must meet state specifications.
 - b. Average cost is for pressure treated lumber and includes fasteners and labor.
 - c. Pumps and motors must be permanent set and are for waste handling only.
 - d. Pump housing protection should be fiberglass. Site built protection may be used in lieu of fiberglass housing with approval from the NRCS

Area Office. Cost share shall be 75% of actual cost not to exceed the current rate for fiberglass pump housings.

- e. Cost share for guttering for existing structures is limited to structures that were in place at least 3 years prior to the date of cost share application. Guttering for a new structure is limited to that listed in the plan that is cost shared at the time of construction. The average cost for guttering includes all material and labor.
14. For all structural practices, any additional volume needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense. Therefore, if the cooperators stores equipment (other than waste handling equipment) in the structure and the plan did not stipulate that the volume of the designed structure was increased at the producer's expense, then the cooperator is out of compliance.
 15. For other components required as an integral part of a BMP, use cost values for the appropriate component provided elsewhere in the average cost.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #312 (Waste Management System) and #633 (Waste Utilization).

Closure - Waste Impoundments

Definition/Purpose

A Closure of Waste Impoundments Practice means the safe removal of existing waste and waste water and the application of this waste on land in an environmentally safe manner. This practice is only applicable to waste storage ponds and lagoons. (DIP)

Policies

1. The Commission agrees that both technical and financial assistance from the District may be appropriate to ensure water quality protection in situations where farmers are going out of business or where a landowner who was not an operator has an abandoned waste impoundment on his/her property.

Therefore, the District may enter into a contract to offer Cost Share Program financial assistance for a waste impoundment closure. Applicants must follow these guidelines:

- a. The District must verify the system is not under active maintenance requirements for an ACSP contract.
- b. The District demonstrates clearly in the contract provided to the Division that the waste impoundment is in a condition that is creating a water quality problem or presents a potential water quality problem if not corrected.
- c. Each CPO must contain the following information and must be received by the Division prior to approval:
 1. Length of time system has been abandoned.
 2. Indication of status with Division of Water Quality (i.e. has farm received a Notice of Violation.)
 3. Name of watershed in which system is located.
 4. Name of receiving waters (stream, river).
 5. Volume of system based on length, width, depth of liquid/sludge and slopes.
 6. Number of contractors who can do the work available to the District.
 7. Two estimates from established contractors, using entire volume of system as determined by the District and as included in the lagoon closure plan. In situations where pumping is impractical because of consistency of sludge (i.e. solid), sludge may be excavated. Estimates should include information regarding how waste is to be removed (i.e. drag line, agitate and pump, etc.)
 8. Surface area (acres) of the lagoon.
 9. A profile of the dam and how it is to be breached, if applicable.

10. A statement signed by the applicant/landowner that he/she will not re-implement the system and that no confined animal operation will be restarted on that farm. The completion of **NC-ACSP-1C** (07/02) meets this requirement.
11. **A statement, signed by the technician, certifying that the operation has an approved waste management plan is required for all contracts (see section VI for form NC-ACSP-WMP and policies for additional guidance).**
 - d. The District or a Technical Specialist shall prepare the closure plan in accordance with the current standards promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service and the State, using the NC Nutrient Management Software program, version 3.0.9 or later. The plan must address removal of transfer pipes and installation of a spillway, if needed. The planned waste application may not cause excessive zinc or copper soil levels nor exceed the crops' timely nitrogen uptake.
 - e. Cost Share Program funds will be used for the removal of waste and stabilization of site only (not for fill materials). Removal of foreign materials will be at the landowner's expense and must be removed according to state and federal guidelines.
 - f. Breaching of any diked or dammed structures is optional; however all disturbed areas will be vegetated to permanent grass, trees, or wildlife plantings. NCACSP policies and NRCS Standards will apply to all vegetated areas.
 - g. Districts may write contracts for waste impoundment closures based on the lowest bid that is technically acceptable, not to exceed a total of \$75,000 charge to NCACSP per applicant. Payments will be based on actual cost based on receipts. Receipts and a copy of the waste analysis report must accompany Requests for Payment.
 - h. A subcommittee of the TRC will review lagoon/pond closure contracts that exceed \$50,000. The District will be notified of the subcommittee's decision. Closure activities covered by the contract shall not begin until the District has received the approval card from the Division.
2. BMP soil impact is not required for this BMP.
3. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.
4. If the tract including the waste impoundment is converted to residential or commercial uses during the maintenance period, the cost share contract shall be considered out of compliance.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #342 (Critical Area) and #633 (Land Application) and Specification # 360 (Closure of Waste Impoundments); DSWC Guidelines for Lagoon Closure Plan Development

Retrofit of On-Going Animal Operations

Definition/Purpose

Retrofits of On-Going Animal Operations are modifications of structures to increase storage or to correct design flaws to meet current standards. This practice may also be used to close waste impoundments on on-going operations, including the safe removal of existing waste and waste water and the application of this waste on land in an environmentally safe manner. (DIP)

Policies

Existing, on-going operations which desire to close or retrofit existing unlined waste impoundments in order to meet current standards, regulations, or rules are eligible for cost share reimbursement under the following guidelines:

1. Closure/retrofit of waste impoundments must adhere to the following guidelines:
 - a. For waste impoundments, Cost Share Program funds will be used for the removal/disposal of waste only (not for fill materials), and for stabilization of site. Removal of foreign materials will be at the landowner's expense and must be removed according to state and federal guidelines. Costs for closure is limited to 75% of actual cost. Receipts and a copy of the waste analysis report must accompany Requests for Payments (NC- ACSP-3).

Breaching of any diked or dammed structures is optional; however all disturbed areas will be vegetated to permanent grass, trees, or wildlife plantings. NCACSP policies and NRCS Standards will apply to all vegetated areas.

The District or a Technical Specialist shall prepare the closure plan in accordance with the current standards promulgated by the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service and the State, using the NC Nutrient Management Software program, version 3.0.9 or later. The plan must address removal of transfer pipes and installation of a spillway, if needed. The planned waste application may not cause excessive zinc or copper soil levels nor exceed the crops' timely nitrogen uptake.

- b. For retrofitted waste impoundments, Cost Share Program funds may be used for removal/disposal of waste and other components necessary to bring the lagoon/waste storage pond up to current NRCS Standards. A copy of the waste analysis report must accompany Requests for Payments (NC-ACSP-3). Funds may also be used to make the required structural upgrades (clay liner, emergency spillway, etc.) and for required compaction test.
2. A statement, signed by the technician, certifying that the operation has an approved waste management plan is required (see Section VI for form NC-ACSP-WMP and policies listed on Page V-17 of this manual for additional guidance).
3. The removal of trees is a correction for a lack of maintenance and is not considered a retrofit.

4. BMP soil impact is not required on this BMP. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorus units, that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.
5. Minimum life for the retrofit of an on-going animal operations is 10 years.

Specifications

N.C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, #633 (Land Application) and Specification #360 (Closure of Waste Impoundments).

Constructed Wetlands

Definition/Purpose

A Constructed Wetlands for land application practice means an artificial wetland area into which liquid animal waste from a waste storage pond or lagoon is dispersed over time to lower the nutrient content of the liquid animal waste. (DIP)

Policies

1. Cooperator is responsible for appropriate local, state and federal permits.
2. Area office approval required until a final NRCS Standard is developed and approved.
3. Cost share payments will be based on actual cost and copies of invoices must be attached to the Request for Payment.
4. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
5. BMP soil impact is not required on the contract.
6. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.

Specifications

Contact your NRCS Area Office.

Controlled Livestock Lounging Area

Definition/Purpose

A Controlled Livestock Lounging Area means a planned, stabilized and vegetated area in which livestock are kept for a short duration.(DIP)

Policies

1. Area Office approval required until a final NRCS Standard is developed and approved.
2. Operation & Maintenance Plan is required and must be submitted with the contract.
3. BMP soil impact is required on the contract.
4. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #337 (Interim Controlled Livestock Lounging Area).

Dry Stack

Definition/Purpose

A Dry Stack means a fabricated structure for temporary storage of animal waste. (DIP)

Policies

1. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
2. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.
3. Minimum life expectancy is 10 years.
4. Maximum size cost shared is based on storage volume required in waste utilization plan, average stacking height of 5 feet. Additional volume needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense.
5. If metal fabrication is utilized, the average cost includes all structural steel, concrete for footings, framing, grading, and all other necessary components of the dry stack.
5. Drystack and composters may be installed on non-producing (of litter) farms for applicants who plan to use litter on their crop or pasture lands but must obtain the litter from another individual that has poultry. Poultry and non .0200 animal operations are limited to \$30,000.00 in cost share funds for a drystack.
9. A signed statement is required stating the dry stack will be used only for waste storage. (Waste handling equipment may be stored in the dry stack provided it does not cause a displacement of waste.)

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #313 (Waste Storage Structure).

Feeding/Waste Storage Structure

Definition/Purpose

The feeding/waste storage structure is designed for the purpose of improving the collection/storage of animal waste and to reduce runoff of nutrients and fecal coliform to adjacent water bodies. The practice is intended to be used where livestock feeding areas are in close proximity to streams and where relocation or rotation of feeding areas is infeasible due to physical limitations (e.g., slope) and where other stream protection measures are insufficient to address water quality concerns.

Policies

1. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
2. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.
3. Minimum life expectancy is 10 years.
4. Maximum size cost shared is based on storage volume required in waste utilization plan, average stacking height of 5 feet and a feed area necessary to accommodate the current herd size. Additional volume needed for the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense.
5. If metal fabrication is utilized, the average cost includes all structural steel, concrete for footings, framing, grading, and all other necessary components of the feed/waste storage structure. Feeding panels or feeding wagons are not cost shareable components.
6. A \$25,000.00 cap per structure will be standard. BMPs (stock trails, watering systems, etc.) that are offered in the NCACSP as standard practices are not included under the cap.
6. A signed statement is required stating the structure will be used only for animal feeding and waste storage.
7. This practice must be in conjunction with the exclusion of livestock and alternative watering sources, where applicable.
8. A 100 foot setback from streams, creeks and lakes will be required.
9. The installation of the feed/waste storage structure will be contingent on design approval from the NRCS area engineer.

Specifications

NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #313 (Waste Storage Structure).

Heavy Use Area Protection

Definition/Purpose

A Heavy Use Area Protection means an area used frequently and intensively by animals which must be stabilized by surfacing with suitable materials to improve water quality. Benefits may include reduced erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved, particulate, and sediment-attached substances. (DIP)

Policies

1. When Heavy Use Protection Area is employed in conjunction with feeding areas and barn lots, a filter strip must be established before the practice is eligible for cost-sharing. **Heavy Use Area Protection is not approved for access roads.**
2. The requirement of fencing around a heavy use area is to be left to the technical staff as to whether it is needed.
3. Livestock exclusion in conjunction with heavy use area protection measures **(loafing lots, barns, feeding stations, watering facilities, stock trails, etc.) will be required to have a minimum set-back of 20 feet from the top of the stream bank.** A statement must be included on the contract indicating the established setback distance from the stream bank and must also indicate distance on sketch included with contract.
4. Heavy use areas that are components of .0200 waste management plans must meet additional buffer requirements as prescribed in the Interagency Guidance Memorandum.
5. BMP soil impact is required on the contract.
6. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.
7. Structural geotextiles shall meet the requirements of "Construction Specification 217 - Geotextiles" and "Interim Material Specification 592 - Geotextiles". Drainage geotextiles shall meet the requirements of N.C. Technical Guide, Section IV Practice Standard 606, as shown in paragraph 606-8-5.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #561 (Heavy Use Area Protection) and #382 (Fencing).

Waste Treatment Lagoon/Storage Pond

Definition/Purpose

A Waste Treatment Lagoon means an impoundment made by excavation or earthfill for biological treatment and storage of animal waste. (DIP)

A Waste Storage Pond means an impoundment made by excavation or earthfill for temporary storage of animal waste, waste water and polluted runoff. (DIP)

Policies

1. The Cost Share Program will reimburse for the removal of clay from stockpiles to be used to form clay liners for lagoons. Costs for the clay liner are to be calculated on the amount of clay soil moved from the stockpile to the excavated area. Dam construction, pads, etc. are part of the excavation used as earth fill and are not considered as soil being handled twice.
2. All NRCS standards and NC Agriculture Cost Share Program policies relative to vegetation must be followed.
3. The temporary seeding of a lagoon/storage pond is not a cost shared BMP. However, to prevent dike erosion and to assure practice integrity, payment for the lagoon construction may be made prior to the establishment of permanent vegetation based on the following conditions:
 - a. The area engineer submits in writing the reason temporary seeding is necessary and assurance is made that the cooperators will reseed to permanent vegetation as soon as it is practical; and
 - b. The cooperator will reimburse the cost shared funds of the lagoon/storage pond if permanent vegetation is not established in the first suitable growing season.
4. The Cost Share Program will pay for pumps to move waste to a lagoon or waste storage pond. Pumps needed to recycle water from the lagoon back to the house to flush the houses is a production requirement needed to pass health restrictions, etc. **The Cost Share Program will not pay for items/components which are not necessary for water quality benefits.**
5. Vegetation on the banks of the lagoon/storage pond are to be protected from livestock with permanent fencing, if applicable. Livestock are not to be used to mow the banks.

6. When existing lagoons are to be closed as part of retrofitting animal waste systems to meet .0200 certification, the CPO for the retrofit must include information relative to the closing of the existing lagoon(s)/storage pond(s) and an explanation as to why closure of the lagoon/storage pond is necessary (instead of retrofitting the existing lagoon, a new lagoon is being built). Cost share for closure of lagoons/storage ponds which are part of a retrofit is limited to 75% of the cost to remove and land apply the volume of the lagoon/storage pond as determined by the District Office.
7. The Waste Management Plan or separate closure plan must include all the criteria of NRCS' interim standard for closure. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
10. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.
9. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #359 (Waste Treatment Lagoon), #425 (Waste Storage Pond), #590 (Nutrient Management), and #633 (Waste Utilization).

Livestock Mortality Management System

Definition/Purpose

A livestock mortality management system is a facility for managing livestock mortalities such as to minimize water quality impacts or to produce a material that can be recycled as a soil amendment and fertilizer substitute. Cost shareable mortality management system components include: composter, rotary drum composter, forced aeration static pile composter, mortality freezer, mortality incinerator and mortality gasification system.

A composter means a facility for the biological treatment, stabilization and environmentally safe storage or organic waste material (such as manure from poultry and livestock and dead animal carcasses) to produce a material that can be recycled as a soil amendment and fertilizer substitute.

A freezer means a unit capable of freezing and storing poultry and other small animal carcasses until such time they can be moved offsite rendering.

An incinerator or gasifier means a piece of equipment used to cremate dead poultry, swine, or other small animals.

Policies

1. ACSP funds will only be used to fund one mortality management system for each operation. Operations that have already received cost share for one mortality management system and are still in the required maintenance period for the practice have the option of repaying the prorated portion of their cost share to buy back eligibility. Recipients of cost share for composters have the additional option of converting the composter to a dry stack, provided the dry stack was of sufficient volume to meet NRCS standards.
2. A permit is required from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, State Veterinarian for all composters, and all state regulations on the disposal of poultry must be followed. Composting dead animals other than chickens and turkeys is not approved at this time.
3. If a composter is approved, then a Waste Management Plan will be completed for the entire confined animal operation and not just the acreage associated with composter and compost. The Waste Management Plan must address storage of litter needs for the entire confined animal operation. If compost or waste is land applied by the cooperator on any land under his/her control (owned, rented, etc.), then a detailed site location map delineation the fields and compost/waste is moved off the farm by a commercial contract hauler, the name address of the hauler is required with the contract. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
4. A composter shared by landowners is cost shared if a landowner agreement is attached to the contract. This agreement must be signed and dated by all landowners sharing the facility and must state that the facility may be used by each landowner for a minimum period of ten (10) years.

5. Landowners requesting commercial composters may receive 75% or \$3.00 per cubic foot of treatment and storage volume. Payment will then be limited to the minimum volume required using the design criteria of the NRCS and the Cooperative Extension Service.
6. Payment will be made for the minimum volume required using NRCS and Extension Service design criteria for primary and secondary treatment, and/or storage of composted material in one structure. Storage volume is equal to a maximum of four (4) times the primary volume. Additional volume needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense.
7. Pursuant to 15A NCAC 2H.0100 and 2H.0200 regulations, poultry waste storage structures must be located at least 100 feet from perennial streams and groundwater wells.
8. All NRCS and NC Agriculture Cost Share Program standards and policies relative to vegetation of critical areas must be followed, if applicable.
9. North Carolina Division of Air Quality exempts incinerators used to dispose of dead animals or poultry under the following conditions:
 - The incinerator is located on a farm and is owned and operated by the farm owner or by the farm operator.
 - The incinerator is used solely to dispose of animals or poultry originating on the farm where the incinerator is located.
 - The incinerator is not charged at a rate that exceeds its design capacity.
 - The incinerator complies with visible emissions and odorous emissions requirements.
10. An Operation and Maintenance Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-OMP) is required for mortality incinerators, gasifiers and freezers.
11. A Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
12. A mortality management system can only be used to dispose of mortalities associated with the planned operation.
13. Farmers with freezers must include in their waste management plans the name and telephone number of the rendering plant or recycling plant responsible for handling animal carcasses.
14. A Mortality System for poultry with an incinerator may include a roof over the incinerator.
15. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorus units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management under the waste management system.
17. Minimum life of BMP is ten (10) years for composters, rotary drum composters, forced aeration static pile composters, mortality freezers, and mortality gasification systems. Minimum life of BMP is five (5) years for mortality incinerators.

Specifications

North Carolina NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #316 (Animal Mortality Facility).

(Revised September 2008)

Waste Application Systems

Definition/Purpose

A Waste Application System means an environmentally safe system (such as solid set, dry hydrant, mobile irrigation equipment, etc.) for the conveyance and distribution of animal wastes from waste treatment and storage structures to agricultural fields as part of an irrigation and waste utilization plan. (DIP)

Mobile Application System means a portable conveyance system for the application of liquid animal waste from a waste storage pond or lagoon or a manure spreader for the application of dry waste.

Solid Set System means an in-ground sprinkler system which allows the conveyance of liquid waste from a waste storage pond or lagoon to allow land application of liquid wastes.

Underground Main and Hydrant System means an in ground system of pipes ending in hydrants which allows the conveyance of liquid waste from a waste storage pond or lagoon to facilitate the land application of animal wastes.

Policies

1. Items for reimbursement under the maximum are all equipment, materials, construction, installation, vegetation, pumps, etc. from the lagoon to and including the delivery system. **The type of system must be specified on CPO** (i.e. center pivot, traveling gun, solid set, etc.) Reimbursable items must be supported by receipts, including any previous payments to the cooperator for pipe, hydrants or other elements of a waste application system. **For all operations, cost share payments are limited to a \$35,000 lifetime cap.** Cost share will not pay for any motorized vehicles used in transporting/applying waste or for replacing worn out equipment that was previously cost shared on.
2. By signing the Cost Share Agreement (NC-ACSP-2), the cooperator and/or landowner acknowledges and agrees that they are responsible for the maintenance or replacement of all equipment cost shared as a component of waste management measure(s) at their expense and that any cost shared component will not be sold or used as collateral for the life of the practice must be included in the CPO.
3. Above-ground mobile irrigation pipe may be used as a component of a waste application system for cost share with the following stipulations:
 - a. All pipe from the lagoon or waste storage pond to the field must be buried according to NRCS standards;
 - b. The waste application system must include a safety valve that will close in case pressure is lost; and
 - c. The use of above ground pipe must be approved by the Area Office.
4. The following guidelines apply for poultry litter spreaders:

- a. Before a cooperator can receive Cost Share assistance for a poultry litter spreader he/she must have a method for mortality disposal approved by the State Veterinarian and must have adequate litter storage (i.e. storage for 25% of the volume of waste generated annually). For purposes of the cost share program, storing covered or uncovered litter on the ground is not considered acceptable storage, nor is pit disposal acceptable for mortalities (unless approved in an emergency by the State Veterinarian.
 - b. Only a commercially sold fan spinner, rotary type spreader with an adjustable door for calibration may be cost shared.
 - c. Cost share will be based on actual cost with receipts required not to exceed a \$7,000.00 charge to Cost Share.
 - d. Non-producers are not eligible for litter or manure spreaders.
5. Fencing was ruled to be a production practice by the TRC and **is not** an acceptable element of this BMP.
6. When .0200 and Cost Share converge:
 - a. When Cost Share is used for a waste application system that meets the .0200-certification requirements, and a new water quality problem associated with the waste application system is created through the actions of the farmer, Cost Share funds shall not be used to solve the new problem.
 - b. When a waste management system is certified with equipment that is not cost shared, the farmer will be eligible to upgrade the system with Cost Share assistance as long as greater water quality benefits can be shown.
 - c. Cost Share funds can be used to pay the difference between the current replacement value of a previously Cost Shared waste application system (e.g., a honey wagon) and a new system (e.g., solid set) so long as the new system is shown to provide greater water quality improvements.
 - d. If a third party applicator arrangement for an animal operation fails the operator/owner may be eligible for Cost Share assistance to install a waste application system. This example would be analogous to a system that breaks through no fault of the operator, and a repair contract would be allowable.
 - e. Cost Share would be available to extend irrigation pipe when an existing Waste Management Plan (WMP) is updated and the operation will need to expand the waste application systems to take phosphorus or other nutrients into consideration or to base the application rates on more current realistic yield estimates. The operation would still be limited to the \$35,000 lifetime cap for waste application systems.
7. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
8. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.

9. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #442 (Sprinkler), #430 (Irrigation Water Conveyance), #449 (Irrigation Water Management), and #633 (Waste Utilization).

Storm Water Management System

Definition/Purpose

A Storm Water Management System means a system of collection and diversion practices (guttering, collection boxes, diversions, etc.) to prevent unpolluted storm water from flowing across concentrated waste areas on animal operations. (DIP)

Policies

1. Storm Water Management System components must adhere to existing policies and standards. Area Office approval may be required.
2. Storm Water Management Systems may be included in CPO(s) for retrofitting animal operations, either as a new component to an existing waste management system when the existing waste management system lacks appropriate storm water management for certification or as a component to a new animal waste management system which requires storm water management for certification.
3. Funds will not be allowed for roofing a gravel or concrete heavy use area in a pasture. For confined operations, a roof may be cost shared if the designer certifies that a roof is the most cost effective means of managing storm water runoff to the waste collection system and the pad or heavy use area to be roofed was installed prior to November 7, 1996.
4. Guttering can be cost shared when it is to be installed on existing structures which were built at least 3 years prior the date of cost share application or when it is to be installed on new cost shared structures included in the plan. The Average Cost Guide includes the costs of labor and installation.
5. The life of the BMP is ten years.
6. BMP soil, nitrogen and phosphorous impacts are not required on the contract.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #312 (Waste Management System) and Specification #558 (Roof Runoff Management).

Odor Control Management System

Definition/Purpose

An Odor Control Management System means a practice or combination of practices (planting windbreaks, pre-charging structures, incorporation of waste into soil, etc.) which manages or controls odors from confined animal operations, waste treatment and storage structures and waste applied to agricultural land. (DIP)

Policies

1. Cost share for odor control management systems is limited to structural and vegetative practices unless approved by the NCSU Animal and Poultry Waste Management Center.
2. BMP Life one to ten years, depending upon practice.
3. Average Cost Guide: elements and items already a part of Average Cost paid at 75% of average cost, includes grading, vegetation, pipe drops and surface inlets, animal guards, pipe and fittings.
4. Each odor control BMP or a CPO with an odor control BMP must be approved by the TRC. The NCSU Animal and Poultry Waste Management Center must approve unproven technology or techniques prior to submission to the TRC for approval.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #312 (Waste Management System); #392 (Field Windbreaks).

Insect Control Practice

Definition/Purpose

An Insect Control system means a practice or combination of practices (planting windbreaks, pre-charging structures, incorporation of waste into soil, etc.) which manages or controls insects from confined animal operations, waste treatment and storage structures, and waste applied to agricultural land. (DIP)

Policies

1. Unproven technology or techniques must be approved or recommended by the NCSU Animal and Poultry Waste Management Center.
2. Consideration will be given to practices to minimize insects as listed in Attachment 10 of the Fourth Guidance Memo dated January 2, 1997.
3. Each insect control BMP or CPO with an insect control BMP must be approved by the Technical Review Committee.
4. Life of BMP is 5 years.
5. Average Cost Guide: paid at the rate of 75% of actual costs with receipts.

Specifications

NRCS Technical Guide as appropriate.

Manure/Litter Transportation Incentive

Definition/Purpose

Manure/Litter Transportation means transporting dry litter and dry manure from livestock and poultry farms that lack sufficient land to effectively utilize the animal-derived nutrients. The litter/manure will be properly utilized on alternative land or processed to a value-added product, including energy production, to reduce nutrient impacts. Manure/Litter Transportation Incentive payments shall be limited to 3-years per applicant and \$15,000 in a lifetime. (DIP)

Policies

1. The *generator* of the waste product will be the applicant. A *generator* is an independent or contract poultry or livestock grower, in operation at least 3 years prior to the date of cost share application that produces poultry dry litter or dry manure.
2. To be eligible, the applicant must demonstrate that at least 50% of available cropland, pastureland, and hayland under his/her control has either:
 - a. a soil test phosphorus index greater than or equal to 200 or
 - b. a phosphorus loss potential (per PLAT) of high or very high.

Districts may propose alternative eligibility criteria, subject to approval by the Commission.

3. This incentive shall not be used to transport litter/manure for utilization on sites where the phosphorus loss potential (per PLAT) is rated high or very high.
4. A Manure/Litter Shared Responsibility Agreement must be used with each entity receiving transported litter/manure.
5. Applicants who engage in value-added processing onsite are eligible to receive the incentive. However, a cooperator who receives state cost share for any components of their value-added processing system (e.g., litter or manure composter, pelletizer) is not eligible for the incentive.
6. An applicant may receive cost share for waste storage structures, waste treatment structures, and solids separation systems and remain eligible to receive this incentive. An applicant who received cost share for application systems previously, may be eligible to receive this incentive.
7. Payments will be based upon the amount of manure/litter transported for offsite use or processing. Requirements for payment include:
 - a. The applicant must present a record of the amount of litter/manure transported to each receiving entity using the DRY 1 form.
 - b. The applicant must present:
 - i. NMP from each entity receiving litter/manure for land application compliant with the NRCS Standard 590 and in accordance with the 1217 Interagency

Committee Guidance and/or other applicable rules. A Technical Specialist with the Waste Utilization Planning/ Nutrient Management designation must approve the nutrient management plan.

- ii. The receiving entity must also provide the applicant with records using the DRY 2 & 3 forms indicating the fields to which litter/manure has been applied and any other records required by 1217 Interagency Committee Guidance and/or other applicable rules. (Receiving entity must be in compliance with all applicable requirements)
 - iii. Certification from each entity receiving litter/manure for processing that the waste has been processed and that the product has been transported from the processing facility for use.
8. Biosecurity measures outlined by the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services must be followed for all transported manure/litter.
 9. Minimum life of BMP is one year.
 10. Soil loss is not required. Include the amount of nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be properly managed under the transportation incentive.

Specifications

N.C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #633 (Waste Utilization), Specification #590 (Nutrient Management), 1217 Interagency Committee Guidance.

(Revised March 2008)

Solids Separation From Tank-Based Aquaculture Production

Definition

A facility for the removal, storage and dewatering of solid waste from the effluent of intensive tank-based aquaculture production systems. (DIP)

Purpose

To capture organic solids from the effluent stream of intensive fish production systems that would otherwise flow to effluent ponds for storage and further treatment. This waste comes from uneaten feed and feces generated by fish while being fed within a tank-or raceway based fish farm.

Policies

1. By signing the Cost Share Agreement (NC-ACSP-2), the cooperator and/or landowner acknowledges and agrees that they are responsible for the maintenance or replacement of all equipment cost shared as a component of waste management measure(s) at their expense and that any cost shared component will not be sold or used as collateral for the life of the practice must be included in the CPO.
2. Items for reimbursement under the maximum are all equipment, materials, construction, installation, vegetation, and pumps. A maximum of two 90' geotubes and a year supply of polymer per system will be eligible for reimbursement.
3. For all operations, cost share payments are limited to a \$15,000 lifetime cap.
4. Receipts must support reimbursable items.
5. Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) is required.
6. Cost share will not pay for any motorized vehicles used in transporting/applying waste.
7. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.
8. Minimum life of the BMP is 10 years.

Specifications

N.C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specifications #312 (Waste Management System); #633 (Waste Utilization)

Concentrated Nutrient Source Management System

Definition/Purpose

A Concentrated Nutrient Source Management System is a system of vegetative and structural measures used to manage the collection, storage, and/or treatment of areas where agricultural products may cause an area of concentrated nutrients. (DIP)

Policies

1. Concentrated Nutrient Source Management System components must adhere to existing policies and standards.
2. Elements and items already a part of the NCACSP Average Cost Guide will be paid at 75% of average cost; includes grading, vegetation, and pipe. Other approved BMPs (e.g., filter strip, critical area planting, diversion) may be incorporated into the Concentrated Nutrient Source Management System. For components not found in the Average Cost Guide cost will be based on 75% of actual cost with area office approval required.
3. Where nutrients are land applied, the application must be in accordance with a nutrient management plan that conforms to the NRCS standard.
4. BMP soil, nitrogen and phosphorus impacts are required on the contract.
5. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #590 (Nutrient Management), #393 (Filter Strip), #342 (Critical Area Planting), #362 (Diversion). NRCS Area Office or Division of Soil and Water Conservation engineer must approve engineering designs.

Manure Composting Facility

Definition/Purpose

Composting is a biological process in which microorganisms convert manure and other organic matter into a soil-like material called compost. Compost can be applied as a soil amendment to improve soil tilth and plant growth. A composting facility is a facility for the biological treatment, stabilization and environmentally safe storage of organic waste material (such as manure from poultry and livestock) to minimize water quality impacts and to produce a material that can be recycled as a soil amendment and fertilizer substitute. (DIP)

Policies

1. If a composter is approved, an Operation and Management Plan must be developed to guide the user in the proper management of the composting facility. It should address carbon-nitrogen ratios, moisture, pile configuration, composting period, temperature, aeration, nutrients, odor, testing, and storage.
2. A Waste Management System Plan is required and should take into account the collection, treatment, storage, and end use of the compost. The plan will be completed for the entire animal operation and not just the acreage associated with composter and compost. If compost is land applied by the cooperators on any land under his/her control (owned, rented, etc.), then a detailed site location map delineating the fields used should be in the Waste Management System Plan. If compost is moved off the farm by a commercial contract hauler, the name and address of the hauler is required with the contract.
3. A composter must be covered with a roof to prevent nutrient runoff from the processing or treated material. Runoff from the composter must be collected and disposed of properly.
4. A composter shared by landowners is cost shared if a landowner agreement is being attached to the contract. This agreement must be signed and dated by all landowners sharing the facility and must state that the facility may be used by each landowner for a minimum period of ten (10) years.
5. For **rotary drum composters**, the NRCS State Engineer must approve the model.
6. Payment will be made for the minimum volume required using NRCS and Extension Service design criteria for primary and secondary treatment, and/or storage of composted material in one structure. Storage volume is equal to a maximum of four (4) times the primary volume. Additional volume needed to accommodate the producer's equipment and/or desires will be at the producer's expense.
7. Pursuant to 15A NCAC 2H.0100 and 2H.0200 regulations, waste storage structures must be located at least 100 feet from perennial streams and groundwater wells. NRCS specifications require all waste structures to be 100 feet from perennial streams or groundwater wells.
8. All NRCS and NC Agriculture Cost Share Program standards and policies relative to vegetation of critical areas must be followed, if applicable.

9. A Waste Management Plan Statement (NC-ACSP-WMP) and an Operation and Maintenance Statement (NC-ACSP-OMP) are required.
10. BMP soil impact is not required. Include the amount of fresh manure in nitrogen and phosphorus units that will be generated and properly managed under the waste management system.
11. Minimum life of BMP is ten (10) years.

Specifications

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #317 (Composting Facility), #633 (Waste Utilization) and #590 (Nutrient Management).

Lagoon Biosolids Removal Incentive

Definition/Purpose

Lagoon Biosolids Removal means removing accumulated biosolids from active lagoons to restore required treatment volume at on-going operations. The biosolids will be properly utilized on offsite farmland or processed to a value-added product, including energy production, to reduce nutrient impacts. Lagoon Biosolids Removal Incentive payments shall be limited to \$15,000 in a lifetime. (DIP)

Policies

1. The *generator* of the waste product will be the applicant. A *generator* is an independent or contract poultry or livestock grower.
2. This incentive shall only be used to remove biosolids when a biosolids survey indicates that biosolids have accumulated within the required treatment volume.
3. This incentive shall not be used to apply biosolids at a rate exceeding the following maximums:
 - a. For sites with a phosphorus loss potential (per PLAT) of low or medium, application shall not exceed the phosphorus requirements for the next two crops,.
 - b. For sites with a phosphorus loss potential (per PLAT) of high, application shall not exceed the phosphorus requirements for the next crop.
 - c. For sites with a phosphorus loss potential (per PLAT) very high, no application allowed.
 - d. The nitrogen application shall not exceed the nitrogen requirement of the next receiving crop.
4. If required, a Manure/Litter Shared Responsibility Agreement must be used with each entity receiving transported biosolids.
5. Applicants who engage in value-added processing onsite are eligible to receive the incentive. However, a cooperator who receives state cost share for any components of their value-added processing system (e.g., litter or manure composter, pelletizer) is not eligible for the incentive.
6. An applicant may receive cost share for waste storage structures, waste treatment structures, and solids separation systems and remain eligible to receive this incentive. An applicant who received cost share for application systems previously, may be eligible to receive this incentive.
7. Payments will be based upon the amount of biosolids transported for offsite use or processing. Requirements for payment include:
 - a. The applicant must present a record of the amount of litter/manure transported to each receiving entity using the appropriate NC form.

- b. If the biosolids are being transferred to a manure hauler or other third party applicator or processor, the applicant must present:
 - i. NMP from each entity receiving biosolids for land application compliant with the NRCS Standard 590 and in accordance with the 1217 Interagency Committee Guidance and/or other applicable rules. A Technical Specialist with the Waste Utilization Planning/ Nutrient Management designation must approve the nutrient management plan.
 - ii. The receiving entity must also provide the applicant with records using appropriate NC forms indicating the fields to which biosolids has been applied and any other records required by 1217 Interagency Committee Guidance and/or other applicable rules. (Receiving entity must be in compliance with all applicable requirements)
 - iii. Certification from each entity receiving biosolids for processing that the waste has been processed and that the product has been transported from the processing facility for use.
8. Biosecurity measures outlined by the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services must be followed for all transported biosolids.
9. BMP life is one year.
10. Soil loss is not required. Include the amount of nitrogen and phosphorous units that will be properly managed under the transportation incentive.

Specifications

N.C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Specification #633 (Waste Utilization), Specification #590 (Nutrient Management), 1217 Interagency Committee Guidance.

(March 2008)