

GUIDELINES FOR INSTALLING TILE NEAR A DITCH OR GRASSED WATERWAY

Installation of perforated tile within or along a grassed waterway or ditch that passes through or near the wetland (W, FW, or FWP) identified on the attached photo, is acceptable provided the following conditions are met:

1. The producer is responsible for obtaining all federal, state, tribal and local permits that apply to this activity. If tile will be placed inside a wetland boundary, or will cross ditches or PC wetlands identified as "Waters of the United States" by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), a "404" permit from the COE will be needed prior to approval by NRCS (COE telephone 605-224-8531). Forms are available on the Internet at: <http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/usace-docs/forms/formlib-all/e4345.pdf>
2. If a ditch or waterway does not run through or near a wetland, perforated tile may be installed at any depth or distance from the ditch or waterway. Otherwise, the tile line must be installed a minimum distance (specified by NRCS) from the ditch or waterway.
3. If the ditch or waterway is a wetland and receives groundwater discharge, NRCS will determine whether the proposed tile would divert water from the wetland. If NRCS determines the tile will not divert water from the wetland, NRCS will specify the minimum distance the tile must be from the wetland boundary. If NRCS determines the tile will divert water from the wetland, a Minimal Effect Agreement or mitigation may be required.
4. Any size of tile is acceptable, except as limited by a Minimal Effect Agreement or COE permit. Tile made of any material may be used.
5. Surface inlets are only allowed as marked on the attached map. Pipes installed in wetlands must be nonperforated (solid). Existing wetland water levels must be maintained.
6. The tile line must outlet in the same drainageway and upstream of any wetlands located in the drainageway. (Water must not bypass downstream wetlands.)
7. The producer agrees to provide NRCS a map of the constructed tile line(s) with construction receipts. The map must show the locations and depths (or elevations) of both perforated and nonperforated tile.
8. No trees will be removed from wetlands without first obtaining a Minimal Effect Agreement from NRCS.
9. Other wetlands will not be altered.
10. Any change from what is planned could potentially result in a converted wetland (CW+year), loss of USDA benefits, and/or a violation of the Clean Water Act.
11. Both parties must agree to these guidelines prior to construction.

Producer _____ Date _____

NRCS Rep. _____ Date _____