

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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**Subject:** PGM – Waiver to Establish a Practice Prior  
To EQIP Contract Approval

**Date:** March 17, 2009

**To:** All Virginia NRCS District Conservationists

**File Code:** 440

I am granting a waiver on the restriction of establishing a practice prior to EQIP contract approval. The waiver is being granted due to the late release of EQIP rules and manual which may interfere with the timely establishment of certain conservation practices during the 2009 spring planting season. This waiver applies only to the practices listed below that would be scheduled for installation during the 2009 spring planting season:

- 342 Critical Area Planting
- 327 Conservation Cover
- 328 Conservation Crop Rotation
- 386 Field Border
- 393 Filter Strip
- 512 Pasture Hayland Planting
- 595 Pest Management (for orchards only)
- 329 Residue and Tillage Management

This waiver will be applied only to those who have completed a signed EQIP application prior to starting or implementing the respective practice(s). Again, the practices covered by this waiver are for the 2009 planting season only.

Granting of this waiver does not guarantee that a contract will be funded or approved. Applicants proceed at their own risk.

Participants must have a request for a waiver in the contract file after making application. Field Offices are directed to maintain a copy of this letter in the contract file where a waiver is needed and to forward a copy to affected applicants who have requested a waiver.

/s/

JOHN A. BRICKER  
State Conservationist

cc: Ken Carter, ASTC (Programs), Richmond  
Dan Solomon, EQIP Program Manager, Richmond

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