



## OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN

### **“DIKE”**

**Landowner/Operator:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Legal description of practice location:** SEC \_\_\_\_\_ T \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_

#### **OVERVIEW**

A properly operated and maintained dike is an asset to your farm. This dike was designed and installed to prevent inundation of your farmland from the adjacent watercourse. The performance life of the structure can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

#### **GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Avoid excessive travel on any portion of the system that will harm or destroy the vegetative cover.
- Periodically check the elevation of the earthfills and restore to grade, if necessary.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height.
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- Determine and eliminate causes of settlement or cracks in the earthen sections and repair damage.
- Check all rock riprap sections for accelerated weathering and displacement. Replace to original grades if necessary.
- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals and repair any damage caused by their activity.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock damage to any earthfills, spillways, outlets or other appurtenances.
- Remove woody vegetation from embankments.

