



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E412A

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Enhance a grassed waterway

Conservation Practice 412: Grassed Waterway

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed); Crop (Perennial)

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Water Quality Degradation

ENHANCEMENT LIFE SPAN: 10 year

Enhancement Description

Extending, enlarging or increasing protection for an existing grassed waterway for better water quality protection.

Criteria

This enhancement shall include all the following:

- Enhance the waterway by improving either size, length or outlet, using one or more of the following options:
 - Lengthen the waterway further up the slope.
 - Extend the waterway further past its current outlet location.
 - Reshape, widen, or reconstruct part of the waterway to achieve more flow capacity.
- Protect the waterway to help it function properly and improve life expectancy by completing 4 out of 6 of the following:
 - Create GPS shapefiles and must be used by applicators for auto-shut off of equipment (spraying and/or fertilizing) passing by or through waterway.
 - For fields that the producer owns or operates in the watershed, The STIR value shall be no greater than 40 for each crop in the rotation (maintain high residue).
 - Uniformly distribute residues over the entire field (don't bale residue).
 - Install drain tile on one or both sides of the waterway to maintain vegetation.

MT: It is rare to use this option as, typically, drainage is not needed.

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- Prevent berms from developing along the perimeter of the grassed waterway by lifting tillage equipment, driving across waterway, and dropping tillage equipment on the other side for continued groundwork on the same pass.
- Provide swales or wing dikes every 200-300 feet along the waterway perimeter to direct runoff from the field into the grassed waterway. Protect the swale and entry slope with erosion control fabric.

Documentation and Implementation Requirements

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, choose which fields contain waterways that will be addressed using this enhancement. Decide what will be done from the criteria list.

Field	Waterway ID	Criteria Chosen

- IF selecting to GPS the boundary of the waterway, provide NRCS with the shapefiles.
- Prior to implementation, if seeding will be done, prepare the planned acres for vegetation establishment. Total planned amount of waterway = _____ feet. Prior to implementation, select grasses best suited to site conditions. Refer to NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Grassed Waterway (Code 412).
 - **MT: Refer to CSP Critical Area Planting 2017 (Code342) and its Operation and Maintenance and Job Sheet documents. Follow the O & M and Practice Specification for CSP Grassed Waterway.**
 - **NOTE: Haybales are not to be used for erosion control within the newly constructed waterway because they are ineffective.**

Species	Seeding Rate (lb/ac pure live seed)	Note specific species characteristic(s)



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NRCS will:

- As needed, provide technical assistance in selecting the best option that would meet the criteria of the enhancement
- As needed, design the grassed waterway for the participant as requested.
- As needed, provide additional assistance to the participant as requested.
- If selecting the option to improve water infiltration in the watershed above the waterway, NRCS will provide the STIR value.

NRCS Documentation Review:

I have reviewed all required participant documentation and have determined the participant has implemented the enhancement and met all criteria and requirements.

Participant Name _____ Contract Number _____

Total Amount Applied _____ Fiscal Year Completed _____

NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature Date