



United States Department of Agriculture

# Conservation Practice Standard Updates



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**NRCS State Technical Committee**

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# State Technical Advisory Committee



## FEDERAL REGISTER

The Daily Journal of the United States Government



The MN State Technical Advisory Committee was informed of 1 Federal Register Notice for Public Comment on Conservation Practice Standards (Since our August 2022 meeting).

- **Federal Register Notice Sent out to the STAC on 12/16/2022**
- **Comments Close: 1/18/2023**



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## NRCS is requesting comments on the following conservation practice standards:

- Animal Mortality Facility (Code 316);
- Forest Trails and Landings (Code 655);
- Lined Waterway or Conveyance Channel (Code 468);
- Obstruction Removal (Code 500);
- Terrace (Code 600);
- Tree-Shrub Establishment (Code 612);
- Underground Outlet (Code 620);
- Waste Storage Facility (Code 313); and
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (Code 638).



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### Public Comments are Important:

This would be a great time to suggest renaming the Waste Storage Facility (Code 313) to Manure and Agricultural Bi-Product Storage or other terminology that does not include the term Waste.



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# Newly Revised National Conservation Practice Standards

- Aquatic Organism Passage (Code 396)
- Deep Tillage (Code 324)
- Early Successional Habitat Development-Mgt (Code 647)
- Firebreak (Code 394)
- Forest Stand Improvement (Code 666)
- Fuel Break (Code 383)



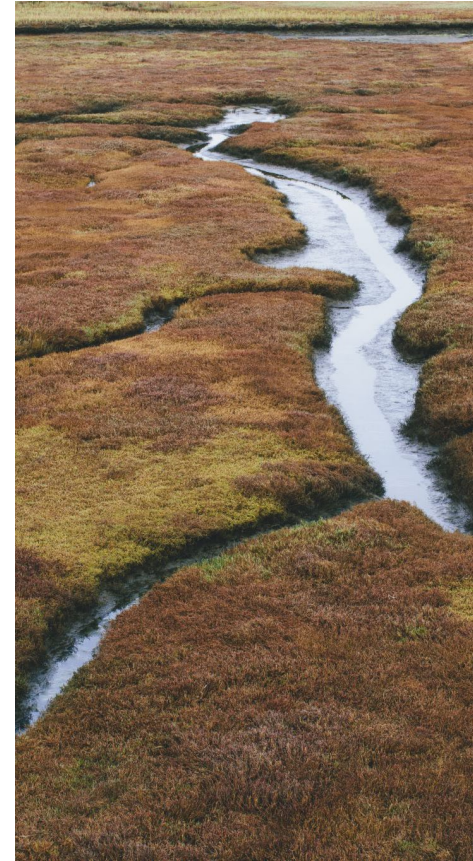
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# Newly Revised National Standards

- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (Code 390)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 645) Wetland Enhancement (Code 659):
- Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management (Code 644)



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# Newly Released National Standards

## Soil Carbon Amendment (Code 336):

This is a new standard that supports the application of biochar, compost, and other State-approved carbon amendments (e.g., harvested aquatic plant biomass, bagasse, distillation residue) to increase soil carbon sequestration and improve soil health on all land uses..



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# Interim Conservation Practice Standard

## **Annual Forages for Grazing Systems (Code 810):**

This practice is used to establish adapted and compatible species, varieties, or cultivars of annual forage species suitable for pasture or fodder.

This practice is used to accomplish one or more of the following purposes:

- Provide or increase forage supply during periods of low forage production or to extend the grazing season
- Provide temporary cover to reduce wind and water erosion and forage for sites where perennial forages will be reestablished
- Reduce excess nutrients from the soil
- Improve soil microbial life and soil aggregate stability



# Conservation Practice Standards

- **Nationally Revised Standards**
- **New Standards**
- **Interim Standards**
- **Standards vs. Specifications, Technical Notes and Planning Requirements**



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# Facilitating Changes and Providing Input

Changing National Standards and the Federal Register (Public Comment)

State Technical Committee

State Technical Committee Subcommittees

Local Work Group Feedback

Call or Send in a Request to NRCS

Provide Research (New and Old)

Conservation Innovation Grants to Test New Technologies



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# Questions?



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