



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E554118Z2

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Saturated buffer drain outlet

Conservation Practice 554: Drainage Water Management

**APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed); Crop (Perennial);
Associated Ag Land**

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Water Quality Degradation

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 1 year

Enhancement Description:

Install Conservation Practice Standard 604, Saturated Buffer so all of the drain outlets on a field are routed through an appropriate buffer.

Criteria:

- The riparian buffer will be vegetated to prevent erosion and utilize nitrogen. Minimum width of buffer will be 30 feet.
- Distribution and overflow pipes will be based on expected flow rates from the subsurface drainage system.
- Overflow pipe will be non-perforated pipe.
- Locate distribution pipes to facilitate uniform groundwater inflow.
- Install observation ports at each end of distribution pipe for inspection and monitoring water levels.
- System shall be capable of maintaining a water table within 24 inches of the ground surface at the distribution pipe.
- Remove invasive trees and shrubs to reduce distribution line plugging.



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Documentation Requirements:

- Structure details and seeding requirements using State specific protocol for Saturated Buffer, CPS 604.
- Plan view of layout of distribution system with profiles of existing drain, distribution pipe, and outlet channel.
- Operation and maintenance plan including water level management and timing, inspection requirements for the structures, pipelines, and drainage system.
- Bi-weekly recording of water levels when a water table is present and following precipitation events that result in high flows.