



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

ENHACNEMENT 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 and Implementation Requirements:

Participant will:

- Prior to implementation, acquire NRCS approval of selected locations for installation of the enhancement.
- Prior to implementation, submit for NRCS's approval the plan view and layout of the distribution system with profiles of existing drain, distribution pipe, and outlet channel.
- During implementation, document and record installation including photos.
- During implementation, develop an operation and maintenance plan including water level management and timing, inspection requirements for the structures, pipelines, and drainage system.
- During implementation, bi-weekly record water levels when a water table is present and following precipitation events that result in high flows
- After implementation, make the follow items available for review by NRCS to verify implementation of the phosphorous removal system enhancement:
 - Operation and maintenance plan
 - Documentation including photos of installation of structures and distribution system
 - Bi-weekly recording of water levels

NRCS will:

- As needed, provide additional technical assistance to the participant as requested.
- Prior to implementation, as needed, provide explanation of NRCS Conservation Practice Standard Saturated Buffer (Code 604) and any State specific protocol as it relates to implementing this enhancement:
- Prior to Implementation, as needed, provide technical assistance in determining sites for enhancement implementation that meet specified criteria.
- Prior to Implementation, review and approve plan view and layout of the distribution system with profiles of existing drain, distribution pipe, and outlet channel.
- After implementation, verify installation of structures, operation and maintenance plan, and log of water levels.



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.

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Participant Name _____ Contract Number _____

Total Amount Applied _____ Fiscal Year Completed _____

NRCS Technical Adequacy Signature

Date

