

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
POND - EMBANKMENT
CODE 378**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____

County _____ SWCD _____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

Inspections and maintenance are required to obtain intended function and life of the embankment pond. Items to inspect and maintain during the 20-year design life of the pond are:

1. Check inlet, embankment, and vegetated spillway after heavy rains for possible damage. Inspect annually for damage from normal use.
2. Inspect the downstream toe of the embankment annually. If there are wet areas or seeps at the downstream toe of the embankment, it could be a serious problem. Ask for assistance from your NRCS office to evaluate the seepage.
3. Inspect the spillway of the pond frequently. Clear accumulated trash away from rock riprap chute or pipe inlet when found.
4. Repair erosion at outlet of principal spillway pipe as needed.
5. Fill rills and gullies that occur on the embankments and vegetated spillway. Reseed the filled areas.
6. Check frequently for burrowing animals. When found, remove the burrowing animals, replace embankment materials, and reseed.
7. Maintain a vigorous sod in the auxiliary spillway and on embankments by regular mowing and fertilization. Time the first mowing after nesting birds have hatched (about August 15). Remove excess growth. Do not burn or overgraze.
8. Prevent trees and brush from growing on embankments, abutments, or in the spillway areas. Control trees and bush growth by hand cutting, mowing, or chemicals. Avoid grass damage by herbicides.
9. Install and maintain a fence to keep livestock out of pond.
10. Check stock-water system periodically, if applicable.
11. Maintain a grass filter strip around the perimeter of the pond to trap sediment.
12. Check downstream floodplain at least once every 5 years to assure life or property will not be threatened in the unlikely event of a dam failure. Contact State Dam Safety Agency if questions arise.

Special Considerations: _____

(Adapted from Michigan NRCS)