

Agricultural Water Collection System

Definition/Purpose

Construct an agricultural water collection system for water reuse or irrigation for aquaculture and nursery operations. These systems may include construction of new ponds or utilizing existing ponds in order to intercept sediment, nutrients and chlorophyll a, reduce demand on the water supply by reuse, and decrease withdrawal from aquifers.

Policies

1. The pond shall be for agricultural use.
2. The Preliminary Site Assessment Tool for new ponds must be completed.
3. The pond(s) must be certified by a professional engineer or an individual with appropriate job approval authority.
4. The pond(s) must be designed to the references below based on its hazard classification:
 - a. Low Hazard Classification – All designs must meet either NRCS Standard 378 (Pond) or the NC Dam Safety Law (15A NCAC 02K .0100) regardless of if they fall under the Dam Safety Permitting Requirements. The design components may not be mixed within the two standards.
 - b. Intermediate Hazard Classification – All designs must meet the NC Dam Safety Law (15A NCAC 02K .0100) regardless of if they fall under the Dam Safety Permitting Requirements.
 - c. High Hazard Classification – All designs must meet NC Dam Safety Law (15A NCAC 02K .0100)
5. Cost share for this practice includes pond construction and needed pumps to recycle the water throughout the system. Irrigation equipment is not eligible for this practice.
6. Costs are based on the average cost list. Total cost share cannot exceed a total of \$15,000 per system, plus engineering costs up to \$7,500 if required.
7. Operation and Maintenance Plan is required.
8. Cooperators are responsible for obtaining and complying with all required permits.
9. Minimum life of BMP is 10 years.
10. If the pond is no longer used for the purpose of the practice during the maintenance period, the cost share contract shall be considered out of compliance.
11. The District shall inspect the site annually during the maintenance period.

Specifications

North Carolina NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Code 313 (Waste Storage Facility), Code #378 (Pond), Code #402. (Dam), NRCS Fact Sheet: Preliminary Site Assessment for New Ponds.