

**WASTE TREATMENT LAGOON
(CODE 359)**

DESCRIPTION

An impoundment made by excavation, earth fill, or a combination of both for the biological treatment of animal or other agricultural waste.

PURPOSE

To develop a waste management system that will provide biological treatment and storage of animal waste until it can be safely utilized on cropland. This practice should be implemented where it is necessary to prevent pollutants from animal wastes or wastewater from reaching the waters of the State.

CONDITION

Apply this practice to areas on farmland where animal wastes or wastewater from dairy operations constitute a significant pollution hazard or to livestock operations where wastewater or rainwater runoff is contributing to a water quality problem.

POLICIES

1. The practice must be installed on the same farm parcel as where the animal waste is generated.
2. A minimum of *fifteen (15)* animal units must regularly use or occupy the area being addressed. Operations with *eight (8)* to *fourteen (14)* animal units may be eligible based on the animal unit cost-effectiveness (reference Section III, page 12, 43.b).
3. Cost-sharing *is authorized* for:
 - a. Collection basins and settling basins utilizing aerobic or anaerobic treatment.
 - b. Storage and diversion facilities which will contribute significantly to maintaining or improving the soil or water quality.
 - a. Measures needed as part of the system to convey animal wastes or wastewater (e.g. diversions, channels, waterways, outlet structures, or piping).
 - d. The installation of underground piping to convey rainwater away from livestock areas and the Waste Treatment Lagoon. Reasonable precautions must be taken at the point of discharge to prevent erosion problems.

Waste Treatment Lagoon 359-2

- e. Leveling and filling to permit the installation of an effective system; vegetative cover (including mulching) to protect the area surrounding the Lagoon.
 - f. Roof guttering and down spouting (Code 558) as part of a Waste Treatment.
 - g. An Ag waste fence only if essential to a particular waste storage project for the safety of livestock or humans.
 - h. Permanently installed equipment needed as an integral part of the system.
4. Cost-sharing ***is not authorized*** for:
- a. Measures primarily for the prevention or abatement of air pollution, unless the measures also have soil and water conservation benefits.
 - b. Portable pumps, pumping equipment or other portable equipment; equipment for spreading animal wastes on the land.
 - c. Buildings or modifications to buildings; portions of a waste treatment lagoon installed under or attached to a building which serves as part of the building or its foundation.
 - d. Animal waste facilities that do not meet local or State regulations.
 - e. Installations intended primarily for the operator's convenience.
5. A current Waste Management System Plan (WMSP), according to NRCS Standards and Specifications, must be signed by the applicant and the District Conservationist and accompany the MACS Water Quality Project form. The WMSP must be farm-specific and include information on the situation, problem, geographic area, Nutrient Management Plan (NMP), system components, component details, waste utilization, installation timetable, structure operation and maintenance.
6. A NMP that represents the current operation must be signed by the applicant and submitted prior to or with the signed MACS Claim for Payment (CFP). This plan must indicate the use of the Animal Waste Facility and the presence of the animals on the farm. The NMP must comply with Maryland Nutrient Management Regulations (COMAR 15.20.08). The plan must be reviewed and approved by the Nutrient Management Program prior to the CFP approval by the MACS Administrator.

Waste Treatment Lagoon 359-3

7. Applicants are required to keep their WMSP and NMP updated and current throughout the maintenance life of any animal waste treatment or containment project. These updates are the responsibility of the applicant and landowners, and the District and/or the nutrient management consultant provides assistance. The District is responsible to verify the applicant has a current Nutrient Management Plan and Waste Management System Plan.
8. NRCS Standards and Specifications for Waste Treatment Lagoon (Code 359) shall be followed when applying this practice.
9. This practice shall be properly maintained and operated for a minimum of fifteen (15) years. The applicant agrees to provide all equipment, labor and materials needed to meet this requirement.

COST-SHARE RATE

The State cost-share payment shall not exceed 87.5% of the total eligible cost, not to exceed the cumulative maximum allowed for animal waste treatment and containment BMPs of \$100,000 per farm.

ATTACHMENTS

Applicant(s) with an outstanding Unsatisfactory On-Farm Status Review of BMP Maintenance and Use of previous project(s) may be ineligible for further MACS Cost-Share funding. When a previous project expires with outstanding unsatisfactory status, the applicant is ineligible for any future MACS funding.

The following items are needed:

1. A copy of a recorded deed(s) for the parcel(s) where the BMP is located. If the current, appropriate deed is already on file in the MACS Office, then record both the agreement number of the file where the deed is kept and the liber/folio numbers in the General Comments section of the application.
2. A copy of the Real Property Data Search page from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation's website (www.dat.state.md.us) indicating the Maryland Property View Account ID Number and owner information.
3. An aerial photograph indicating the property lines as well as all existing and proposed BMPs.
4. Worksheet to determine storage requirement.
5. A farm-specific Waste Management System Plan which includes information on the situation, problem, geographic area, NMP, system components, component details, waste utilization, installation timetable, structure operation and maintenance. This document must be signed by the District Conservationist and the applicant and/or operator.
6. Nutrient Management Plan Certification form (to be used for imminent start up or expansion operation only, if applicable).
7. A current and approved NMP is required on file in the MACS office before The Claim for Payment can be approved.
8. A plan view sketch graphically demonstrating the layout and details of the proposed BMP.