



Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C. 20013

February 20, 2008

NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES
450 – VI
NOTICE 144
Amendment 2

Purpose. This notice transmits new or revised conservation practice standards, along with an updated Index, for insertion into the National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP). In addition, notes are included to highlight key changes made to each document.

Effective Date. This notice is effective when received.

Explanation. New or revised National Conservation Practice Standards (NCPS):

Agrichemical Handling Facility (Code 309): This is a new practice standard created to address potential water quality problems from the handling of agrichemicals such as pesticides and fertilizers. The standard is very specific in clarifying that it is intended for single farm use and not intended to support commercial agrichemical storage activities. Also, it is not for addressing fuel storage and handling. The national standard was developed to replace the multitude of existing State Interim Practice Standards (Codes 702 and 703) currently in use.

Fence (Code 382): Minor editorial changes were made throughout the standard. The primary changes of significance were to include specific language that includes portable and temporary fences under this standard and to include life expectancy of practice as a key parameter for the basis of design.

Instructions. If a hard copy of the NHCP is maintained, replace the Contents pages i through vi dated June 2007 in the NHCP with the revised Contents pages found at http://policy.nrcs.usda.gov/media/rtf/H_450_NHCP_Index.rtf

Insert the new or revised standards in the NHCP in alphabetical order as designated on the revised Contents pages.

Remove and archive, as appropriate, the existing practice standard for Fence (Code 382) dated 3/03.

DIST: State Offices, Regional Assistant chiefs, NHQ Division Directors and Above, and National Center Directors



Moreover, all State Interim Standards Code 702, 703, and 764 will need to be replaced with the new Agrichemical Handling Facility Code 309 by January 30, 2009. After January 29, 2009, practice codes 702, 703, and 764 will no longer be available in the Conservation Practice Standards (CPS) reference table for use by States in other NRCS applications.

This notice and each of the conservation practice standards included with this notice can be accessed electronically. Access can be through either the NRCS homepage on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html> or from the FTP server at <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NHQ/practice-standards/standards/>.

Federal Register Notices

The National Conservation Practice Standards Subcommittee (NCPSS) published notice of intent to revise or adopt these standards in the *Federal Register* on July 9, 2007. Comments from the public were accepted for 30 days.

Guidance to the States and the Directors, Pacific Islands and Caribbean Areas can be found in Title 450, Technology, General Manual, Section 401.19 for complying with the provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill that require advertising for public comment prior to revising NRCS State-level technical guides.

Attachment

/s/

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Director
Conservation Engineering Division

/s/ Robert Escheman for

JOYCE SWARTZENDRUBER
Acting Director
Ecological Sciences Division