

Name of Practice: VOLUNTARY IRRIGATION WATER RECYCLING SYSTEM  
DCR Specification for No. VWQ-7

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Voluntary Irrigation Water Recycling System best management practice, which are applicable to all contracts entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

This practice establishes a system to distribute, collect, and reuse irrigation water and surface runoff from agricultural fields involved in the production of vegetable and horticultural crops.

The purpose is to improve water quality by collecting and reusing irrigation and surface runoff, which may be high in nutrients, sediments, or pesticides from a variety of vegetable and horticultural crops that were grown using plastic, synthetic fiber mulches, and/or impervious surfaces.

B. Policies and Specifications

1. An annual water test is required of the applicant for the lifespan of the practice. Minimum requirements are to test for nitrogen (nitrate and nitrite), phosphorous, and the specific chemicals used in the operation.
2. The volume of water applied through the irrigation system must be calculated and documented as part of the Irrigation Water Management practices that is required for every system.
3. Soil loss rates must be computed for all applications.
4. The practice must not be in lifespan from any other conservation program.
5. This practice is subject to NRCS Standards 342 Critical Area Planting, 350 Sediment Basin, 356 Dike, 362 Diversion, 393 Filter Strip, 410 Grade Stabilization Structure, 412 Grassed Waterway, 436 Irrigation Storage Reservoir, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 430 Irrigation Pipeline, 436 Irrigation Storage Reservoir, 441 Irrigation System, Micro-Irrigation, 442 Irrigation System Sprinkler, 466 Land Smoothing, 447 Irrigation Systems Tail water Recovery, 468 Lined Waterway or Outlet, 533 Pumping Plant, 552 Irrigation Regulating Reservoir, 572 Spoil Spreading, 582 Open Channel, 607 Surface Drainage, Field Ditch, 608 Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral, 620 Underground Outlet, and 638 Water and Sediment Control Basin.
6. All practice components implemented should be maintained for a minimum of five years following the calendar year of installation. This practice is subject to spot check by the District throughout the lifespan of the practice.

C. Technical Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and District staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE. Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA) for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

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