

## **ALLEN SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION POND POLICY**

The following is intended to provide District landowners with guidelines as to the procedures and agreements in effect when the Allen Soil and Water Conservation District, with technical assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, provides engineering assistance for the construction of Ponds.

### **Pond Design Deposit**

To assure the installation of planned practices, the Allen Soil and Water Conservation District requires a deposit for engineering plans according to the following policy:

- \$750.00 (engineering, plans, survey, design, etc.)
- \$250.00 (deposit to be refunded after a year, see refund policy below)

These fees will be collected from the landowner after the preliminary investigation is completed and prior to the start of any survey and design work.

### **Reason For Deposit**

A considerable amount of time is spent by SWCD and NRCS staff doing survey and design work. In some cases, many man-hours have been lost because the pond was never constructed or was installed without regard to design specifications. Our staff time is limited and the construction season is short. It is most important to focus our staff time in those areas, which offer the best return in quality conservation work. The deposit is set to provide an incentive to landowners to construct the pond according to specifications.

### **Refund Policy**

The \$250.00 deposit will be refunded one year after a SWCD or NRCS employee certifies that the practice has been installed to meet plan specifications. If corrections necessary to meet design specifications are not fulfilled within 60 days of the construction check, or if construction has not been completed within one year from the date the landowner received the plan, the deposit shall be forfeited. Forfeiture deposit constitutes a donation to the Allen Soil & Water Conservation District.

Extenuating circumstances may be appealed, by written notice within 45 days of the expiration of the agreement, to the Board of Supervisors with their decision being final. No interest will be paid, to the landowner, on money held by the District.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on: **August 17, 2022**

  
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Allen SWCD Board Chairman

## **POND ENGINEERING SPECIFICATIONS**

### **Preliminary Investigation**

All pond sites shall be investigated for soil suitability prior to the development of engineering plans. Investigations shall include soil borings excavated by backhoe or hydra hoe with the capabilities of digging at least 12 feet deep or at least 2 feet deeper than proposed pond depth. The landowner is responsible for scheduling necessary equipment. Advanced notice must be given to the Allen SWCD/NRCS office to schedule soil borings and Allen SWCD/NRCS staff member must be present during the soils investigation.

### **Watershed Size**

Present NRCS pond specifications require a 6:1 watershed/pond ratio. Past experience in the county has shown many ponds with lesser ratios to be satisfactory, landowners should be aware that any pond constructed with less than 6:1 ratio may need a supplemental water supply.

### **Core Trench Inspection**

Adequate core trenches will be required on all ponds constructed with the Allen SWCD/NRCS assistance. Core trenches must be excavated to a sufficient depth and refilled with compacted clay material. Minimum depth shall be 3 feet, with additional depth required by Allen SWCD/NRCS office if needed. Allen SWCD/NRCS technician must be present to check core trench before the refilling and compaction process takes place.

### **Compaction Requirements**

All fill material shall be compacted with a minimum of three passes of rubber tired equipment, in case of a bulldozers being used a sheeps-foot roller is necessary. The Allen SWCD/NRCS office may recommend that construction be suspended if soil moisture drops below or exceeds that required for proper compaction.

### **Seepage Problems**

Plans will not be developed unless the Allen SWCD/NRCS staff is reasonably certain the site will satisfactorily hold water. Landowner should be aware that no guarantee can be given that seepage problems will not be encountered. Water loss beyond normal seasonal fluctuation can be due to: permeable soils, muskrat activity, a tile line too close to the pond, improper construction techniques, as well as other causes. Every effort will be made to avoid these problems. Remember no guarantees can be made. The success of ponds depends on the quality of all construction work, and the willingness of the landowner to pay for quality work.

POND POLICY AGREEMENT

**I shall require the contractor to follow the District designed engineering plan without change unless changes are approved by a SWCD or NRCS representative.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

A deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ has been received by the Allen Soil & Water Conservation District for Pond Engineering Plan.

Deposit Received \_\_\_\_\_ Receipt # \_\_\_\_\_

**SWCD staff will work with the landowner and contractor through the completion of the conservation project, and will provide any assistance needed (layout, construction checks, etc.)**

SWCD: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Pond construction has met the specification requirements of the Allen Soil & Water Conservation District. The Pond Engineering Deposit posted prior to the construction has been returned.**

Deposit Refunded \$ \_\_\_\_\_ CK# \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Certification Complete: \_\_\_\_\_ Allen SWCD

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