

IOWA INSTRUCTION 210-386 – DISCONTINUED USE OF ENGINEERING DOS SOFTWARE

For over a quarter of a century DOS based software programs, such as the Ohio Engineering Software Program, have been a key tool used by Iowa NRCS and its partners in the design of conservation practices. During the past several years, Windows based engineering software tools have been developed such as Engineering Field Tools (EFT); Engineering Field Handbook – Chapter 2 (EFH2); Hydraulics Formulas; WinPond; and AutoCAD. These software programs incorporate new design technology and are tailored to operate on our current computers. While many users have transitioned to the new engineering software programs others have continued to use the DOS based programs.

The support and update of DOS based Engineering Software will be ending. In order to focus our software training and support, all Iowa NRCS Staff ^{1/} shall discontinue use of the following DOS based Engineering Software Programs as of the dates specified in Table 1.

TABLE 1. – Engineering Software Summary of Action and Dates ^{2/}

DOS BASED SOFTWARE PROGRAM(S)	EQUIVALENT WINDOWS BASED SOFTWARE PROGRAM(S)	DISCONTINUE USE DATE OF DOS BASED SOFTWARE PROGRAM(S)
Ohio Programs - Grassed Waterway Design - New Grassed Waterway Missouri Waterway	EFT - Waterway Design Tool (WDT)	April 1, 2012
Ohio Programs – Runoff and Hydrology Tools	EFH2 or Win TR-55	April 1, 2012
Ohio Programs – Download Electronic Data	Trimble Data Transfer	April 1, 2012
Ohio Programs - Animal Waste Management System	AWM	April 1, 2012
Total Station Utilities	Trimble Data Transfer & EFT - Survey Engineering Tool (SET)	April 1, 2012
Anti-Seep	Spreadsheet to be Developed	August 1, 2012
Ohio Programs – SSRP (Iowa version)	EFT - Survey Engineering Tool (SET)	August 1, 2012
Ohio Programs - Hydraulics	Hydraulics Formulas	August 1, 2012
Hydro-Yardage	WinPond Sites	TBD
Iowa Terrace	EFT - Terrace Design Tool (TDT)	TBD
Ohio Programs - WASCORB	EFT - Terrace Design Tool (TDT)	TBD
Ohio Programs - Cross section	AutoCAD Civil 3D	TBD

^{1/} All Iowa NRCS Staff also includes partner employees providing technical assistance under Memorandums of Understanding with NRCS.

^{2/} The equivalent Windows based software is the customary replacement for the corresponding DOS-based software. Windows-based software from non-NRCS sources may be used for planning purposes or limited design use with approval from the State Conservation Engineer and any pending CCE compliance requirements.

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DOS based software may remain functional on your PC beyond the “*Discontinue Use Date.*” Continued use and operation of DOS software programs, beyond the dates specified, shall be limited to finalizing designs which were started prior to the “discontinue use date” shown in Table 1.

Iowa NRCS area engineers are delegated authority to issue software use variances in circumstances where the DOS based engineering software program is the only means of generating a product. Variances issued by the respective area engineer(s) must be documented in writing, per the specific project, with a courtesy copy sent to the state conservation engineer. Blanket variances are not acceptable. Area engineers shall have software variance approval authority until January 1, 2014.

In addition to the directions above, effective upon receipt of this directive, all Iowa NRCS Offices are to:

- Cease the use of and destroy copies of “How to design, construct, seed and maintain small grassed waterways Iowa Job Sheet.”
- Cease the use of and destroy copies of “Designing, Constructing, Seeding and Maintaining Grassed Waterways with 30 to 100 Acres Drainage Area.”

Transitioning away from our current DOS based engineering software programs and short cut design tools may be difficult but training on the use and operation of equivalent tools are available upon request. While on-site area training sessions and engineering webcasts have been completed, continued feedback from the field is needed to ensure training needs are being met. Field staff should make engineering training needs known to your supervisor and area engineer.

Any questions concerning this instruction shall be directed to Allen Gehring, State Conservation Engineer, at allen.gehring@ia.usda.gov).

Approved By:

Date: March 2, 2012

/s/ Richard Sims
State Conservationist