

Conservation Practice Standard Overview

Irrigation Canal or Lateral (320)

An irrigation canal or lateral is constructed to convey water from the source of supply to one or more farms.

Practice Information

The purpose of this practice is to deliver water to the farm irrigation system(s). The objectives of the practice are to reduce erosion, prevent degradation of water quality, and improve efficient use of water by minimizing conveyance losses from seepage or structural failure.

All canals, laterals, and related structures are planned as an integral part of a total system designed to facilitate natural resource conservation on a farm or group of farms.

Plans for irrigation canal or lateral installations include related structures such as turnouts, checks, crossings, and other facilities needed for successful operation as an efficient system. All related structures are designed and installed to meet NRCS quality standards.

An irrigation canal or lateral will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.



Common Associated Practices

Irrigation Canal or Lateral (320) is commonly applied with practices such as Irrigation Water Management (449), Pumping Plant (533), Irrigation Systems, Micro-irrigation (441), Sprinkler (442), Surface & Subsurface (443), Irrigation Storage Reservoir (436), Water Well (642), Structure for Water Control (587), and Irrigation Ditch Lining (428).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.