## **Grassed Waterways**

## Definition/Purpose

A Grassed Waterway means a natural or constructed channel that is shaped or graded to required dimensions and established in suitable vegetation for the stable conveyance of runoff to improve water quality. Benefits may include reduced soil erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved and sediment-attached substances. (DIP)

## Policies

- 1. This is a sediment control practice and must not be used if the primary purpose is to drain wet areas in a field.
- As a condition for cost sharing, the field or treatment unit draining into the waterway
  must have installed, or the farmer must agree to install as part of the agreement, erosion
  control measures necessary to prevent damage from washout or excessive
  sedimentation in the waterway.
- 3. Land smoothing for grassed waterways is intended to be used only where existing terraces, diversions or other minor landscape features must be removed prior to initiating a grassed waterway system.
- 4. All NRCS standards and NC Agriculture Cost Share Program policies relative to vegetation must be followed.

GRASSED WATERWAYS	
Maintenance Period	10 YEARS
BMP Units	ACRES
Required Effects	ACRES_AFFECTED – (planted acreage and drainage area) SOIL_SAVED NITROGEN_SAVED PHOSPHORUS_SAVED
JAA/NRCS Standard unless otherwise noted	ENG – 412 – Grassed Waterway
CS2 Reference Materials	NC-ACSP-11 Signature Page Map with BMP location, fields, and roads.