

## Conservation Practice Standard Overview

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### Waste Facility Closure (360)

Waste facility closure is the process of removing the long-term accumulation of sludge, floating matter, and wastewater from waste impoundments (animal waste lagoons or storage ponds) in an environmentally safe manner.

#### Practice Information

Waste impoundments (lagoons and storage ponds) for animal feeding operations often need renovation to restore design volumes and/or waste treatment function. If an animal feeding operation closes, the waste impoundment will also need to be properly closed or converted to a different use.

All activities involved with closure of a waste impoundment will be certified by a qualified credentialed professional (QCP).

The renovation/closure of waste impoundments includes agitating and pumping the mixed contents of the waste impoundment on to the land as fertilizer with either irrigation equipment or liquid manure spreaders; dredging, stockpiling, draining, controlling seepage or runoff; and spreading the dried sludge material as fertilizer, preparing the impoundment site for the intended future use.



Waste facility closure will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.

#### Common Associated Practices

Waste Facility Closure (360) is commonly applied with practices such as Irrigation Waste Utilization (633), Nutrient Management (390), Manure Transfer (634), Pumping Plant (533), and Critical Area Planting (342).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.