

## Conservation Practice Standard Overview

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### Land Smoothing (466)

Land smoothing is removing irregularities on the land surface with earth-moving equipment.

#### Practice Information

Land smoothing is classified as “rough grading” and does not require a complete grid survey. Irregularities are smoothed to the degree required for installation of other conservation practices and farming activities.

Land smoothing is used to improve surface drainage, provide for a more effective use of precipitation, provide for more uniform planting and cultivation, improve equipment operation and efficiency, improve terrace alignment, and facilitate contour cultivation.

Land smoothing creates a more level area for crop production. It is used where depressions, mounds, old terraces, turn-rows, and other surface irregularities interfere with the application of needed soil and water conservation and management practices.

Land smoothing will require maintenance over the expected life of the practice.



#### Common Associated Practices

Land Smoothing (466) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Dike (356); Structure for Water Control (587); Drainage Water Management (554); and Surface Drain, Field Ditch (607).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.