

North Carolina Surface Irrigation of Wastewater Needs-To-Know

Chapter 1 – Wastewater Characteristics

- 1-1. Identify the sources of wastewater.
- 1-2. Describe the difference between domestic and industrial wastewater and list concerns with application of high strength industrial waste.
- 1-3. Define inorganic and organic as they relate to wastewater treatment.
- 1-4. Describe several important physical characteristics of wastewater and identify unusual conditions that could affect system operation.
- 1-5. Define total, suspended, and dissolved solids and explain their importance in wastewater treatment.
- 1-6. Define influent.
- 1-7. Define pathogen and explain its relevance with wastewater treatment.
- 1-8. Define effluent.
- 1-9. Identify what fecal coliform bacteria are and explain the role they play in wastewater treatment.
- 1-10. Define BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand) and explain the importance of BOD in wastewater treatment.
- 1-11. Define organic loading rate.
- 1-12. Define dissolved oxygen, describe its importance in wastewater treatment and describe methods for measuring it.
- 1-13. Describe the difference between aerobic and anaerobic wastewater treatment.
- 1-14. Define nutrients and how they affect the treatment of wastewater. Describe their role in the efficiency of wastewater treatment.
- 1-15. Define hydraulic loading rate.
- 1-16. Describe the effects of fats, oils and grease on wastewater treatment systems.
- 1-17. Define pH, alkalinity and acidity and explain how these factors affect the treatment of wastewater.
- 1-18. Define sodium adsorption ratio and explain its importance with land application of wastewater.

Chapter 2 – Pretreatment of Wastewater

Lagoons

- 2-1. List the four types of stabilization lagoons.
- 2-2. Explain the differences between, and describe the general operating parameters for the following:
 - aerobic lagoons
 - aerated lagoons
 - anaerobic lagoons
 - facultative lagoons
- 2-3. Explain the difference between a stabilization lagoon and a storage lagoon.
- 2-4. Define freeboard and explain the importance of maintaining adequate freeboard.
- 2-5. Define short-circuiting and explain why it is undesirable.
- 2-6. Define detention time and explain its importance in wastewater treatment.
- 2-7. List the advantages of multiple cell lagoons and describe the difference between lagoons operated in series and lagoons operated in parallel.
- 2-8. List the factors that influence lagoon performance and describe their importance.
- 2-9. Define photosynthesis and describe why it is important in stabilization lagoons.
- 2-10. Describe the daily fluctuation in dissolved oxygen in a normally functioning facultative lagoon.
- 2-11. List probable causes and corrective actions to be taken for each of the following:
 - emergent and suspended aquatic vegetation
 - erosion
 - scum formation
 - excessive algae
 - solids accumulation
 - odor production
 - insufficient freeboard
 - short-circuiting
 - septicity
- 2-12. Describe the maintenance procedures for stabilization and storage lagoon dikes.
- 2-13. Describe the advantages of baffles/curtains in a lagoon system.

Tanks

- 2-14. Identify the components and functions of a septic tank.
- 2-15. List the factors that affect septic tank performance.
- 2-16. Explain the effect of hydraulic and organic overloading on septic tanks.
- 2-17. Define infiltration and exfiltration and explain why each is undesirable.
- 2-18. Describe the procedure for inspecting a septic tank for infiltration or exfiltration.
- 2-19. Describe the problems that can occur with septic tanks and the visible signs that can indicate these problems.
- 2-20. Describe why, when, and how solids should be removed from septic and dosing tanks.
- 2-21. Describe how scum depth is measured in a septic tank.
- 2-22. Describe how solids (septage) accumulation is measured in a septic tank.
- 2-23. Identify the agency that permits the removal of solids from septic and dosing tanks.
- 2-24. Identify the function of a dosing tank.
- 2-25. Describe the different types of dosing mechanisms and list the advantages and disadvantages of each.
- 2-26. Describe the types of establishments that require the use of grease traps or oil/water separators.
- 2-27. List the three forms of fats, oils, and greases.
- 2-28. Describe the components and the functions of a grease trap.
- 2-29. Describe, in general terms, the operation of grease traps associated with food service operations.
- 2-30. List the factors that affect grease trap performance.
- 2-31. Describe the importance of routine servicing of grease traps and identify who is authorized to dispose of grease from these units.
- 2-32. List the different types of oil/water separators associated with industrial operations and describe, in general terms, their operation.

Sand Filters

- 2-33. Describe the purpose of a sand filter.
- 2-34. Describe the basic design of sand filters.
- 2-35. List the different types of treatment processes that occur within sand filters.
- 2-36. Explain why intermittent dosing of sand filters is important.
- 2-37. List three types of sand filters.
- 2-38. Explain recirculation and how it affects filter treatment efficiencies.
- 2-39. List the variables that affect sand filter operation and performance.
- 2-40. Describe the relationship between pretreatment and sand filter performance.
- 2-41. Explain how media size, uniformity and depth affect treatment.
- 2-42. Explain the effects of high hydraulic and/or organic loads on sand filters.
- 2-43. Describe methods for distributing effluent over a sand filter and explain why even distribution is important.
- 2-44. Describe the routine maintenance procedures that are required for proper operation of a sand filter.
- 2-45. Explain why vegetation is undesirable in a filter and how to properly control it.
- 2-46. Describe the importance of controlling infiltration/inflow and how it affects sand filters.

Disinfection

- 2-47. Identify the purpose of wastewater effluent disinfection.
- 2-48. Explain the difference between disinfection and sterilization of wastewater.
- 2-49. List the three major types of disinfection.
- 2-50. List the advantages and disadvantages of chlorination.
- 2-51. Identify the types of chlorine commonly used to disinfect treated effluent.
- 2-52. Define chlorine dosage, chlorine demand and chlorine residual.
- 2-53. Identify the approved methods for determining chlorine residual.

- 2-54. List and briefly describe the factors that affect chlorination effectiveness.
- 2-55. Briefly describe the methods of chlorination.
- 2-56. Describe procedures for chlorine leak detection and the importance of fixing leaks immediately.
- 2-57. Explain why petroleum products and solid chlorine compounds should not be stored in the same area.
- 2-58. Briefly describe ultraviolet radiation as a method of disinfection.
- 2-59. List the advantages and disadvantages of ultraviolet radiation.
- 2-60. List the factors that affect the effectiveness of ultraviolet radiation as a method of disinfection.
- 2-61. Briefly describe ozonation as a method of disinfection.
- 2-62. List the advantages and disadvantages of ozonation.

Chapter 3 – The Natural Treatment System

Soils and Agronomy

- 3-1. Describe the components that make up soil.
- 3-2. Define soil profile.
- 3-3. Describe (in general terms) the following soil physical characteristics and explain the relationship of these factors to the operation of a surface irrigation system:
 - soil texture
 - soil structure
 - organic matter content
 - soil depth
 - soil color
 - soil drainage/wetness
- 3-4. Identify specific topography or landscape positions and describe how water movement is influenced by landscape position.
- 3-5. Define the term colloid and explain the importance of colloids in waste treatment.
- 3-6. Define the following terms:
 - cations
 - anions
 - adsorption
 - exchangeable cations

- soil solution
 - cation exchange capacity
- 3-7. Explain the relationship between pH and cation exchange capacity.
- 3-8. Define the following soil moisture terms:
- saturation
 - field capacity
 - wilting point
 - plant available water content
 - infiltration
 - permeability
- 3-9. List the three major ways soil can treat or renovate wastewater.
- 3-10. Name the various physical, chemical, and biological treatment processes that occur in soils.
- 3-11. Describe the fate of these waste constituents once they enter the soil/plant system:
- nitrogen
 - phosphorus
 - heavy metals
 - pathogens
 - persistent organic chemicals
- 3-12. List the functions that vegetation plays in surface irrigation systems.
- 3-13. Define macronutrient and micronutrient and list examples of each.
- 3-14. List three factors that influence nutrient availability and describe their importance.
- 3-15. As related to nutrient availability, define:
- sufficiency
 - toxicity
 - deficiency
- 3-16. Describe the five things that can happen to nutrients when applied to soils.
- 3-17. Describe the importance of a crop nutrient management plan for waste application sites.
- 3-18. List the four components of a nutrient management plan.
- 3-19. Define agronomic rate.
- 3-20. Define realistic yield expectation (R.Y.E.)

Groundwater and Hydrology

- 3-21. Define hydrologic cycle and describe (in general terms) its relationship to surface irrigation system operation and function.

- 3-22. Define evapotranspiration and describe its importance to surface irrigation system operation.
- 3-23. Define runoff and describe the impact it can have on surface waters.
- 3-24. Define eutrophication.
- 3-25. Define the following:
- saturated zone
 - unsaturated zone
 - water table
 - groundwater
- 3-26. Explain the importance of depth to the water table at surface irrigation sites.
- 3-27. Explain the following concepts and their relationship to surface irrigation system function and operation:
- wastewater mounding
 - lateral movement of groundwater and wastewater

Chapter 4 – Equipment

Pumps and Controls

- 4-1. Describe the purpose of a pump.
- 4-2. Define each of the following:
- suction head (lift)
 - total dynamic head (TDH)
 - friction head
 - water horsepower
 - discharge head
 - brake horsepower
 - total pump capacity
 - motor horsepower
- 4-3. Explain how to calculate pump delivery rate.
- 4-4. Define dosing volume and describe how it is calculated.
- 4-5. Explain pump efficiency.
- 4-6. Describe a pump curve, where can it be obtained, and how can it be used.
- 4-7. Identify the problems which are associated with the condition that occurs when either the suction or discharge head exceeds the pump capacity.
- 4-8. Using diagrams, be able to identify the components of the following types of pumps. Describe applications for each type of pump and list the advantages and disadvantages of

- using the pump in each application. Describe the hydraulic and solids handling capacity of each type of pump:
- centrifugal
 - positive displacement, plunger type
 - turbines
 - positive displacement, diaphragm
 - peristaltic pumps
 - positive displacement, progressive cavity (screw-flow) type
- 4-9. Identify the importance of maintaining a water level equal to or above the top of a submersible pump.
- 4-10. Describe the effect of improper (too loose or too tight) pump packing on the operation and efficiency of a pump.
- 4-11. Describe the effect of improper lubrication on the operation and efficiency of pumps.
- 4-12. Identify which pumps must normally be primed in order to operate.
- 4-13. Identify situations that would cause a loss of prime and explain how to re-prime the pump.
- 4-14. Describe cavitation and how it affects a centrifugal pump.
- 4-15. Describe how a water hammer is created and how it affects pumps and piping.
- 4-16. Identify the proper location for and protection of electrical connections and controls.
- 4-17. Identify the purpose and function of simplex and multiplex controls.
- 4-18. Describe how each of the following pump controls work:
- bubble tubes
 - float switches
 - electrode switches
 - pressure bulbs
 - pump alternator
 - irrigation controller
- 4-19. Explain the purpose of alternating the operation of two or more pumps.
- 4-20. Identify and describe the various types of water level alarms commonly used and explain how they work.
- 4-21. Identify the purpose and function of each the following control panel components:
- elapsed time meters
 - run cycle timers
 - relays
 - telemetry
 - alternators

- time delay relays
 - microprocessors
- 4-22. Explain the importance of flow meters, pump run timers, and run counters and the requirements for their calibration.
- 4-23. Describe how to use pump control records to determine system performance.

Distribution Network and Devices

- 4-24. Define the following term and abbreviations as they relate to piping:
- I.D.
 - O.D.
 - I.P.S.
 - P.I.P.
 - Class
 - S.D.R.
- 4-25. Explain how to interpret SDR values.
- 4-26. Identify the following common types of irrigation pipes, fittings, connections, and valves and state the application of each in a surface irrigation system:
- Pipe
 - cast iron
 - steel
 - cement asbestos
 - aluminum
 - DIP (ductal iron pipe)
 - PVC (Schedule 40 & 80)
 - Fittings
 - elbow
 - tees
 - adapter
 - reducer
 - sleeve
 - wye
 - union
 - Connections
 - flange
 - mechanical joint
 - bell and spigot
 - threaded
 - Valves (Manual or Motor Activated)
 - gate

- plug
 - butterfly
 - check (ball and flapper)
 - solenoid
 - air relief valve
 - pressure relief
 - globe
- 4-27. Explain the difference between Schedule 40 and 80 PVC pipe.
- 4-28. Describe a typical pipe cleanout and explain how and why it would be used.
- 4-29. Describe the importance of anchoring pipes securely and how thrust blocking is used.
- 4-30. Explain how PVC cement works and where it should be used.
- 4-31. Identify the following common types of distribution devices:
- nozzle
 - full circle
 - gun
 - micro spray heads
 - rotary impact
 - partial circle
 - drip emitters
- 4-32. Describe the following types of irrigation systems, and list several advantages and disadvantages of each:
- stationary or solid set
 - travelers
 - center pivot and linear move
- 4-33. Explain the difference between a ring nozzle and taper bore nozzle on an irrigation gun.
- 4-34. Explain where all underground system components are located and the importance of maintaining plans or maps of these components.
- 4-35. Describe appropriate places for checking pressure heads in a surface irrigation system.
- 4-36. Identify the proper steps to take if you discover that the actual flow exceeds the system design flow.

Chapter 5 – Proper Waste Application

Irrigation Scheduling

- 5-1. Define irrigation scheduling.

- 5-2. List the three questions that must be answered before irrigating treated wastewater.
- 5-3. Explain the importance of soil moisture monitoring as it relates to operations at land-based waste treatment systems.
- 5-4. List three methods to estimate the amount of water present in the soil at the start of irrigation and describe each one in general terms.
- 5-5. Describe tensiometers and granular matrix sensors and discuss some advantages and disadvantages of each.
- 5-6. Explain why wastewater application must be adjusted seasonally.
- 5-7. List five factors that may influence the amount of wastewater that can be irrigated.
- 5-8. Describe how infiltration rate affects wastewater application.
- 5-9. Explain how to determine how much wastewater to irrigate.
- 5-10. Explain why the “permitted” application amount or rate is not feasible at all times.
- 5-11. Define discharge rate, precipitation rate, and application volume.
- 5-12. Explain why stationary sprinklers are designed to overlap.
- 5-13. Calculate the precipitation rate for a stationary sprinkler irrigation system.
- 5-14. Calculate the application volume for a stationary sprinkler irrigation system.
- 5-15. Determine the precipitation rate and effective coverage from manufacturer’s literature for a traveling gun sprinkler.
- 5-16. Calculate the precipitation rate and application volume for a traveling gun sprinkler.
- 5-17. Calculate the required travel speed for a traveling gun sprinkler to apply the desired application volume.
- 5-18. Explain what effect changing nozzle diameter can have on discharge rate and wetted diameter.
- 5-19. Explain the effects of changing pressure on droplet size, drift, precipitation rate, and wetted sprinkler diameter.
- 5-20. Explain why sprinkler systems should be field calibrated.
- 5-21. Explain calibration procedures for stationary and traveling sprinklers.

Sampling

- 5-22. Describe how to determine permit sampling requirements and frequencies.
- 5-23. Describe how to take a soil sample and submit for analysis.
- 5-24. Describe, in general terms, the information available on a soil test report.
- 5-25. Describe the proper procedure for taking soil and plant tissue samples for analysis by an agronomy lab such as NCDA.
- 5-26. Describe the role of plant tissue analysis in managing and monitoring cover crops at a surface irrigation facility.
- 5-27. Describe how to take a waste sample from a lagoon and submit it for analysis.
- 5-28. Define the following terms:
 - representative sample
 - grab sample
 - composite sample
 - flow proportional composite
 - timed composite
 - split sample
 - duplicate sample
- 5-29. Describe the need for proper sampling techniques and holding times.
- 5-30. Describe the importance of sampling groundwater at a surface irrigation site.
- 5-31. Describe how to minimize contamination risks while collecting groundwater samples.

Operations and Maintenance and Site Management

- 5-32. List several situations that might require an operator to vary the hydraulic loading rate.
- 5-33. Identify situations that may indicate that a system's malfunction is related to a "soil-related problem" rather than a mechanical one and describe management techniques that can be used to correct or minimize these problems.
- 5-34. Describe the relationship between hydraulic loadings and surface crusting, surface ponding and surface runoff.
- 5-35. Describe the importance of limiting traffic on spray fields.
- 5-36. List several soil characteristics that affect a soil's ability to assimilate heavy metals.
- 5-37. Explain the relationship between soil pH and metal solubility in the soil.

- 5-38. Define the range of Sodium Adsorption Ratio's (SAR's) encountered in wastewater treatment and identify the SAR action level.
- 5-39. Explain why someone should call for technical assistance when the SAR level of the effluent is greater than 5.
- 5-40. Define Exchangeable Sodium Percentage (ESP) and describe the levels of ESP that should be of concern to a surface irrigation system operator.
- 5-41. Describe the importance of good cover crop management.
- 5-42. List the factors that should be considered when selecting crops for a surface irrigation system and describe why these factors are important.
- 5-43. Explain why perennial grass sods are effective in reducing erosion and nutrient losses.
- 5-44. Identify the proper time to irrigate or not to irrigate specific crops to optimize production and wastewater treatment efficiency.
- 5-45. Explain why harvesting the cover crop at a surface irrigation system is essential.
- 5-46. Explain why maintaining proper soil pH is critical to the management of a surface irrigation system.
- 5-47. Describe proper handling of pesticides at a surface irrigation site and the agency responsible for pesticide application.
- 5-48. Define Best Management Practice (BMP) and list BMP's commonly used at a surface irrigation site.
- 5-49. List the agencies or groups that can be contacted for technical assistance with crop and/or site management.
- 5-50. Describe how to recognize poor crop health.
- 5-51. List the steps that should be taken if a suitable vegetative cover is not present at a land application site.
- 5-52. Describe how soil test and plant tissue analysis information can be used in site management.
- 5-53. Explain why uniform distribution of effluent in fields is important.
- 5-54. Explain bleed-off within the system and describe the procedures for minimizing negative impacts.
- 5-55. Identify site conditions that indicate hydraulic overload and list possible actions to minimize hydraulic overload.

- 5-56. Explain how to determine leakage around piping and valves.
- 5-57. Identify evidence of damaged or improperly constructed appurtenances including groundwater monitoring wells.
- 5-58. Given precipitation and flow data from a system, determine what this information might imply about potential system problems (in/exfiltration).
- 5-59. Describe the need to periodically calibrate flow-measuring devices.
- 5-60. Explain where to find manufacturers literature on site-specific components and the need to perform service on these components.
- 5-61. Explain how to inspect and maintain the following:
 - French drain or curtain drain
 - Open drainage ditch and tiled ditches
 - Terrace or other surface water diversions (e.g., grass waterways)
- 5-62. List conditions under which an operator may need to look for expansion sites.
- 5-63. Explain the contents of the site operation and maintenance manual.
- 5-64. Identify the information that should be recorded in a daily site maintenance log book.
- 5-65. Describe an emergency action plan.
- 5-66. List the four basic steps that should be followed in the event of a chemical spill or a release of wastes at a surface irrigation facility.
- 5-67. Explain which agencies should be contacted in the event of a spill or release.
- 5-68. Describe the importance of controlling access to spray fields.

Chapter 6 – Math

Common Abbreviations

L	=	liter	PAN	=	plant available nitrogen
A	=	area (ft ²)	lbs	=	pounds
V	=	Volume (ft ³ , gallons, etc)	conc	=	concentration
ft	=	feet	gal	=	gallons
ft ²	=	square feet	cm	=	centimeter
ft ³	=	cubic feet	mph	=	miles per hour
Q	=	quantity of flow (ft ³ /sec, gpd)	MGD	=	million gallons per day

in	=	inches	m ³	=	cubic meters
gpm	=	gallons per minute	C	=	carbon
gpd	=	gallons per day	DO	=	dissolved oxygen
cfs	=	cubic feet per second	%	=	percent
ac	=	acre	=	=	equal to
ppm	=	parts per million	>	=	greater than
psi	=	pounds per square inch	<	=	less than
min	=	minute	≈	=	approximately
mL	=	milliliter	hrs	=	hours
mg/L	=	milligrams per liter			

Definitions

Area - the measurement of a surface in square units such as feet squared, yards squared, etc.

Circumference of a Circle - the length of the external boundary of a circle; for example, the rim of a basketball goal is 62".

Concentration (mg/L) - the amount of a substance in a given volume such, as 1 mg/L.

Diameter of a Circle - distance from one side of a circle to the other, such as a 3 inch inside diameter of a pipe.

Radius of a Circle - one half the diameter of a circle.

Flow Rate - the volume of a substance that would pass a point in a given amount of time, such as 2 gallons per minute flowing out of the end of a hose.

Field Flow Rate - total gpm for a field (unit area).

Friction - the energy lost by any system in motion due to the rubbing of molecules; for example, friction losses in a pipe.

Head - the distance that water under pressure would rise in a pipe if allowed to do so, such as two feet of head in the distribution lateral.

Hydraulic Soil Loading Rate - the number of inches of wastewater applied to an area of soil in a day, such as 0.5 in/day.

Hourly Loading Rate - the number of inches of wastewater applied to an area of soil in an hour, such as 0.2 in/hr.

Pi (π) - a known ratio that is constant in the geometry of circles ($\pi = 3.14$).

Pressure - the force applied to a unit area, such as the pressure in a water pipe.

Volume - the capacity of a container, such as a 1 gallon bucket.

Conversion Factors

1 acre (ac)	=	43,560 square feet (ft ²)
1 acre-inch (ac-in)	=	27,152 gallons per acre (gal/ac)
1 cubic foot (ft ³)	=	7.48 gallons
1 gallon of water	=	8.34 pounds of water
1 horsepower (hp)	=	0.746 kilowatts (kw)
1 milligram/Liter (mg/L)	=	0.226 pounds per acre-inch (lbs/ac-in)

Phosphorous (P) and Potassium Conversions (K) (For Reference Only – Do Not Need to Memorize)			
% P	x 2.29	= % P ₂ O ₅	% P ₂ O ₅ x 0.44 = % P
% K	x 1.2	= % K ₂ O	% K ₂ O x 0.83 = % K

Important Equations

- 6-1. Calculate the area of squares, rectangles and circles.
- 6-2. Calculate volume of tanks, cylinders, storage ponds, and lagoons.
- 6-3. Calculate the detention time of a structure given the volume and flow data.
- 6-4. Calculate pump delivery rate.
- 6-5. Convert concentration (mg/L) to pounds.
- 6-6. Calculate pounds of a substance given wastewater flow and concentration.
- 6-7. Calculate flow given velocity and area.
- 6-8. Calculate average flow rates.
- 6-9. Calculate the hydraulic loading rate given flow and area.
- 6-10. Calculate horsepower.
- 6-11. Calculate hydraulic soils loading rate given flow and area.

- 6-12. Calculate flow rate given hydraulic soils loading rate and area.
- 6-13. Calculate area given hydraulic soils loading rate and flow rate.
- 6-14. Calculate hourly hydraulic soils loading rate given flow and area.
- 6-15. Convert flow data (GPD) to application depth (acre-inches).
- 6-16. Calculate plant available nitrogen (PAN).
- 6-17. Calculate sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) from a wastewater analysis.
- 6-18. Calculate exchangeable sodium percentage (ESP) from a soil analysis.
- 6-19. Calculate the application rate (precipitation rate) for various types of wastewater application systems.
- 6-20. Determine time of system operation given application depth and application rate.
- 6-21. Calculate travel speed for traveling application equipment to meet a desired application rate.

Chapter 7 – Health and Safety

- 7-1. List the federal and state agencies that oversee worker safety in North Carolina.
- 7-2. Describe the health and safety responsibilities of the following:
 - surface irrigation system owners
 - site supervisors
 - employees
- 7-3. List the components of a typical health and safety program.
- 7-4. Describe the information and training employers are required to provide regarding in-house chemicals.
- 7-5. Describe the types of personal protective equipment needed for working in and around surface irrigation facilities.
- 7-6. List the health and safety hazards associated with surface irrigation facilities.
- 7-7. List the health and safety measures that should be used to reduce health and safety hazards at surface irrigation facilities.
- 7-8. Explain when a process safety management and/or risk management program may be necessary.
- 7-9. Define the two types of confined spaces and describe the hazards associated with each.

- 7-10. Define “oxygen-deficient atmosphere” and describe the equipment required to enter such an atmosphere.
- 7-11. Describe “lockout/tagout” policies.
- 7-12. List the types of first aid training that are important for employees of a surface irrigation facility.
- 7-13. Describe the routine safety measures that should be followed when servicing surface irrigation equipment.
- 7-14. Explain the safety concerns of using traveling guns on sloping terrain.
- 7-15. Explain machine guarding.
- 7-16. Describe the safety procedures that should be followed when working around lagoons.
- 7-17. Describe the public health significance of vectors that may come into contact with wastewater.
- 7-18. Explain how to avoid contamination of ditches, waterways, and adjoining properties.

Chapter 8 – North Carolina Regulations

Permit Regulations and Requirements

- 8-1. Identify the regulations that govern the permitting of surface irrigation systems.
- 8-2. Identify the division of state government that is responsible for permitting surface irrigation systems.
- 8-3. Define non-discharge system.
- 8-4. Describe, in general, the application process for a new surface irrigation facility.
- 8-5. Describe the renewal requirements for a surface irrigation system permit.
- 8-6. Explain when a permit modification is required and give examples of changes that would require a modification.
- 8-7. Explain the requirement for an annual permit fee and describe the consequences for not paying it.
- 8-8. Describe the need to have a copy of the non-discharge permit and the importance of reading and understanding it.
- 8-9. Identify who is ultimately responsible for the violation of a permit condition.

- 8-10. Describe the minimum setback distances that must be maintained for surface irrigation systems.
- 8-11. List the operation and maintenance requirements contained in a typical spray (or drip) irrigation system permit.
- 8-12. Describe the importance of maintaining an inspection log.
- 8-13. Identify what state agency must be notified in the event of non-compliance with permit conditions and within what time period this notification must take place.
- 8-14. Describe situations or events that would require non-compliance notification.
- 8-15. List the types of monitoring that may be required in a surface irrigation system permit.
- 8-16. List the two types of activities that require monthly reporting.
- 8-17. Identify the form on which irrigation data must be reported, describe when the report is due, and list the information that must be reported on the form.
- 8-18. Identify the form on which wastewater or effluent monitoring data must be reported, describe when the report is due, and list the information that must be reported on the form.
- 8-19. Identify the state agency to which reports must be sent.
- 8-20. Describe the consequences for failing to comply with all monitoring and reporting requirements contained in a surface irrigation system permit.
- 8-21. Describe the possible consequences of not operating a surface irrigation system in accordance with its permit conditions.

Groundwater Regulations and Requirements

- 8-22. Identify the regulations that govern the maximum acceptable levels for parameters in groundwater.
- 8-23. Describe how to determine if a system's non-discharge permit requires monitoring wells and how to find out where they are located at the site.
- 8-24. Define compliance boundary and explain what actions are necessary if groundwater standards are exceeded at this boundary.
- 8-25. Define review boundary and explain what actions are necessary if groundwater standards are exceeded at this boundary.
- 8-26. Describe the proper exterior condition and labeling of a groundwater monitoring well.

- 8-27. Describe the importance of obtaining background or baseline groundwater samples prior to waste disposal activities.
- 8-28. Describe routine maintenance for groundwater monitoring wells.
- 8-29. Identify the report form that must be used to report groundwater monitoring data.
- 8-30. Describe how to complete a groundwater monitoring form.
- 8-31. Identify the state agency to which groundwater monitoring report forms must be sent.

Operator Regulations and Requirements

- 8-32. Identify the regulations that govern the actions of certified operators.
- 8-33. Identify the state agency that administers the operator certification program.
- 8-34. Identify the Commission that oversees the operator certification program.
- 8-35. Describe the responsibilities of the permittee with regards to designating an Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) and Back-up Operator(s) in Responsible Charge (Back-up ORC).
- 8-36. Describe the basic requirements to obtain a surface irrigation system operator certificate.
- 8-37. List the responsibilities that all certified operators must fulfill to maintain their certification.
- 8-38. List the responsibilities of a certified operator that has been designated as the Operator in Responsible Charge for a surface irrigation system.
- 8-39. Describe the minimum visitation required from the ORC for a surface irrigation system.
- 8-40. Describe the difference between the ORC's responsibilities and the owner's responsibilities.
- 8-41. Describe the need to keep the permittee informed of any necessary repairs or maintenance.
- 8-42. Describe the responsibilities of a certified operator that has been designated as the Back-up ORC for a surface irrigation system.
- 8-43. Describe the circumstances under which a designated Back-up ORC may act as a surrogate for the ORC.
- 8-44. Define contract operations firm and describe their responsibilities.
- 8-45. Describe the types of disciplinary action the Certification Commission may take against a certified operator.
- 8-46. Describe the grounds for action by the Certification Commission against a certified operator.

- 8-47. Describe the terms for recertification following a disciplinary action by the Certification Commission.