

**OPERATION & MAINTENANCE**  
**CONSERVATION COVER**  
**CODE 327**

Landowner: City of Shakopee \_\_\_\_\_

Practice Location: Farmland along Hwy 169 \_\_\_\_\_

County: Scott \_\_\_\_\_

O&M will include but not be limited to the following:

1. Year 1: When weeds and native seedlings reach 1' tall, cut back to a height of 6-8". Mow at least two to three times. Mow until late September. A Brush Hog, flail mower, or mulching mower may be used. Rake or bail of clippings if possible. Do not let the weeds go to seed. Timely application of herbicides may be needed. Do not pull weeds; by doing so you are pulling native seeds that haven't yet germinated out of the soil.
2. Year 2: Mowing may be needed. If so, when weeds and native vegetation reach 1' tall, cut back to a height of 8". Do not mow more than two times. Do not let weeds go to seed. Timely application of herbicides may be needed.
3. Year 3-5 and beyond: Because burning is not possible, mow the entire area to the ground and rake or bail off the clippings.
4. After 4 years, evaluate area and re-seed any areas that do not have adequate permanent cover. Seed between May 15 and June 30<sup>th</sup> or after November 1<sup>st</sup>.
5. Prevent disturbance of cover during the primary nesting season for wildlife after area has been established. (June 1<sup>st</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>)
6. After the area is established, control all noxious weeds as identified by state and local laws, by a) treating with chemicals per label directions, or b) spot mow before seed heads form.
7. Protect the area from unauthorized haying and grazing. Fences may need to be constructed and maintained to exclude livestock through all 12 months of the year.
8. Do not use the area for field borders, field roads, and disposal of livestock, organic waste, or other uses that will damage or destroy the cover.