

Name of Practice: VOLUNTARY VEGETATIVE STABILIZATION OF MARSH FRINGE  
AREAS  
VACS Program Specifications for No. VSE-1

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Agricultural Best Management Practices Cost-Share Program's Voluntary Vegetative Stabilization for Marsh Fringe Areas practice, which are applicable to all contracts entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

This practice provides a protection method for eroding tidal shoreline by establishing a fringe marsh buffer area for shoreline stabilization.

The purpose of this practice is to improve water quality by establishing a natural and environmentally acceptable fringe buffer of selected marsh grasses to provide toe stabilization on tidal waters.

B. Policies and Specifications

1. All appropriate local, state, and federal permits must be obtained.
2. All marsh grass species must be planted/transplanted following the guidelines (spacing, depth, etc.) provided by DCR.
3. All practice components implemented should be maintained for a minimum of five years following the calendar year of installation. The lifespan begins on Jan. 1 of the calendar year following the year of certification of completion. This practice is subject to spot check by the District throughout the lifespan of the practice.
4. The practice must not be in lifespan from any other conservation program.

C. Technical Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and District staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE. Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA) for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

Revised April 2024