

# Land Reclamation, Abandoned Mined Land

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 543



### DEFINITION

Reclamation of Abandoned Mined Land is restoring the natural resources on areas adversely affected by past mining activity.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice applies to the construction, grading, and reshaping of land that has been disturbed or adversely affected by past mining activity. Mining activity often degrades the environment, prevents or interferes with beneficial use of the natural resources, and may even cause health or safety problems.

The purpose of mined land reclamation is to stabilize the area and restore it to a

productive, economic use. The objectives of reclamation include:

- Restoration of an economic land use
- Restoration of desirable vegetation
- Erosion control and soil restoration
- Enhanced water quality and quantity
- Improved aesthetics
- Improved fish and wildlife habitat
- Improved safety and health for humans and other animals

Additional information including design criteria and specifications are in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.