

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT  
AGRICULTURE AND FARM POND EXEMPTION CHECKLIST  
FOR PONDS GREATER THAN 10 ACRES

This checklist is to assist you in submitting complete and proper information. Please keep in mind that this is not an exhaustive list. Each project has unique components and **more or less information may be required** by the project manager to complete the Agriculture and Farm Pond Exemption on any given project. However, this list contains information typically necessary for this office to provide an exemption determination. We appreciate your cooperation in providing this information at the time of your request. Failure to provide this information may delay our response to you.

1. \_\_\_ **Written request** that fully describe all agricultural activities that may result in a discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the US, including streams and wetlands, and includes the information listed below. This includes, for example, mechanized land clearing, roads, crossings, berms, dams.
  - a. \_\_\_ **Name, address, and phone number** of property owner, the name of a contact person, if owner is a company or other organization, and/or if the property owner is not the farmer, the farmer name and relationship with the owner.
  - b. \_\_\_ **Location** description of property or review area (road names, cross streets, nearest town, etc).
  - c. \_\_\_ **Directions** to the property or review area from the nearest interstate highway.
  - d. \_\_\_ **Coordinates** of center of property or review area in **decimal degrees** (xx.xxxx°N, -xx.xxxx°W format). Linear projects should also include decimal degrees location of the start and end of the review/project area.
  - e. \_\_\_ **Size** of property or review area in acres.
  - f. \_\_\_ **Name of nearest named waterbody** (stream/river/lake) to which the property or review area is hydrologically connected, name and number of drainage basin (if the property is connected to an unnamed tributary, then specify the nearest named waterbody (e.g. unnamed tributary to Savannah River).
  - g. \_\_\_ **Completed and signed** NRCS GA-ENG-378EX1 "Farm Pond Exemption Information Paper" form.
  - h. \_\_\_ **Statement** documenting all other water sources and stating why those sources are inadequate.
2. \_\_\_ **Project name.** The name of the project/tract of land.
3. \_\_\_ **Past Actions** including JDs, Permits, etc with the US Army Corps of Engineers Action ID number.
4. \_\_\_ **Property record(s)** for the property or review area.
5. \_\_\_ **Photographs** should be representative of the site and may include, but not limited to, pictures of the wetlands, soils, tributaries, and vegetation on the site. Photographs will help in determining the need for a site visit.
6. \_\_\_ **Agricultural or livestock producer.** The applicant must be an entity who engages in commercial agricultural or livestock production defined below be one or more of the following activities:
  - a. \_\_\_ Agricultural production is defined as a farm or ranch operation involving the production of crops (field-grown ornamentals (not containerized); flowers or bulbs; grains or row crops; hay, forage or pasture; naval stores; orchards or vineyards; seed crops; plant materials; tobacco; turf farms; vegetables or fruits; and or trees (which require a case specific justification from the GA Forestry Commission).
  - b. \_\_\_ Livestock production is defined as a farm or ranch operation involving the production, growing, raising, or reproducing of livestock or livestock products (beef cattle; buffalo; dairy cattle; horses, ostriches or emu; poultry; sheep or goats; swine; turkeys).
7. \_\_\_ **Water budget** from NRCS demonstrating the land owners need to provide water for livestock operations or irrigation of crops including the size pond needed.

8. \_\_\_ **Maps** which must include: scale, north arrow, title block with date, property name, drawing number/preparer, revision dates, roads and waterway names and project/property boundaries.
- a. \_\_\_ **Vicinity/Location Map** including exact location of the property or review area. It should include the nearest intersection of two state highways or other identifiable reference points. A USGS quadrangle map and/or street atlas is preferred.
  - b. \_\_\_ **Map of Wetlands and Other Waters, show all on-site ditches water conveyances** and all wetlands within the associated relevant reach. Include data points taken, referencing a specific data form, location of photographs taken including direction of each representative photograph specific details, and features critical to your conclusion (e.g., culverts, berms, areas of sheetflow, stormdrain connections, impoundments, etc.) (optional).
  - c. \_\_\_ **Soils Map** available at: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>.
  - d. \_\_\_ **Aerial Map** with property or review area limits and wetland/waters sketch including date of photo, available at: <http://earth.google.com/>.
  - e. \_\_\_ **USGS Topographic Map** including quadrangle name and date, available at: [http://store.usgs.gov/b2c\\_usgs/b2c/start/\(xcm=r3standardpitrex\\_prd\)/do](http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/b2c/start/(xcm=r3standardpitrex_prd)/do).
  - f. \_\_\_ **Flood Plain Map**, available at: <http://msc.fema.gov>.
  - g. \_\_\_ **National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) Map**, available at: <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/Mapper.html>.
  - h. \_\_\_ **Irrigation pond**. An aerial photograph identifying areas to be irrigated with acreages and the method/s of irrigation to be used (center pivot, etc.).
  - i. \_\_\_ **Infra-red maps** (optional).
  - j. \_\_\_ **Engineering Surveys**, e.g. two foot or less topographic map of the site (optional).
  - k. \_\_\_ **LIDAR** is highly recommended where available and eases the review of a project including: desktop verification requests, re-verification requests and determining whether a site visit is necessary.

Questions can be directed to the following offices:

Coastal Branch - (800)-448-2402

Piedmont Branch - (678) 422-2735