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| **Operational** | \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ conservation is a short-run practice that can be implemented on a year-by-year basis |
| **Structural** | Long-run practice that will be in place once it is implemented until it is removed or altered |
| **Conservation** | The practice of protecting natural resources against harm and waste |
| **Gully Erosion** | Loss of soil in large, often impassible trenches or ditches resulting from runoff. Channels are deeper than 30 cm and cannot be removed by normal cultivation. |
| **Rill Erosion** | Loss of soil in small, but visible tracks that are less than 20 cm deep that can be removed by normal cultivation. Develops when surface water concentrates in depressions or low points. |
| **Sheet Erosion** | Gradual removal of soil in thin layers by raindrop impact and shallow surface flow. Results in loss of the finest soil particles. |
| **Wind Erosion** | Soil loss resulting from the action of the wind |
| **Watershed** | The area of land that water flows across or underground on its way to the same stream or river. |
| **Water Cycle** | Transports water between earth’s land, atmosphere, and oceans. The major processes moving water are evaporation, transpiration, condensation, and precipitation. |
| **T Value (Tolerable Soil Loss)** | Maximum amount of soil loss in tons per acre pre year that can be tolerated and still permit a high level of crop productivity to be sustained economically and indefinitely. |
| **Detachment** | Separation of soil particles from the soil mass. Expressed in units of mass/area. |
| **Deposition** | Accumulation of sediment on the soil surface. Expressed as mass/acre. |
| **Nitrogen Cycle** | Cycling of nitrogen through the biosphere through 4-step process: nitrogen fixation, decay. |
| **Contour Buffer Strips** | Permanently vegetated strips located between larger crop strips on sloping land. |
| **Contour farming** | Aligning ridges, furrows, and roughness formed by tillage, planting and other operations to alter velocity and/or direction of water flow to around the hill slope. |
| **Cover Crops** | Crops including grasses, legumes, and forbs for seasonal cover and other conservation purposes. |
| **Crop Rotation** | Growing plants in a planned sequence on the same field, year after year. |
| **Managed Grazing (Rotational Grazing)** | Managing the planting of forage and using grazing rotations among fields or paddocks. |
| **Nutrient Management** | Managing the amount (rate), source, placement (method of application), and timing of plant nutrients and soil amendments. |
| **Integrated Pest Management** | Limiting soil disturbance to manage the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and plant residue on the soil surface year round. |
| **Diversion** | A channel generally constructed across the slope with a supporting ridge on the lower side. |
| **Field Borders** | A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field. |
| **Grassed Waterway** | Area planted to grass or other permanent vegetation where water usually concentrates as it runs off a field. |
| **Buffer Strip** | Vegetated areas next to water resources that protect water resources from nonpoint source pollution and provide bank stabilization. |
| **Stream Bank and Shoreline Stabilization** | Treatment(s) used to stabilize and protect banks of streams or constructed channels, and shorelines of lakes, reservoirs or estuaries. |
| **Terraces** | An earth embankment, or a combination ridge and channel, constructed across the field slope. |
| **Windbreak** | Single or multiple rows of trees or shrubs in a line that reduce wind erosion. |
| **Water and Sediment Control Basin** | A basin with an engineered outlet, formed by an embankment or excavation or a combination of the two that captures and detains sediment run off to allow it to settle out in the basin. |