

Fence

Conservation solutions for your Pennsylvania farm

Do you have problems with...

Utilizing your entire pasture?

Your livestock accessing streams, ditches or ponds?

Your livestock on the road or in your neighbor's property?

Controlling unwanted human or animal access to property?

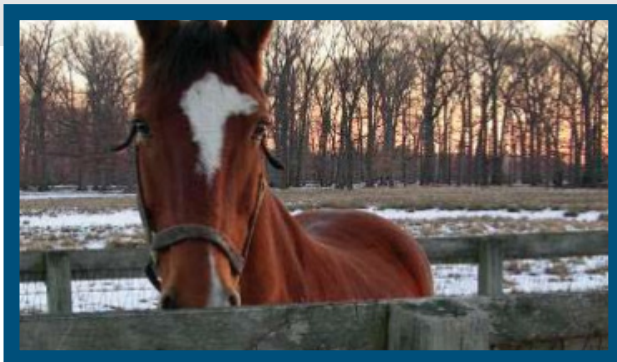
If so, you should consider fencing!

DEFINITION:

Fencing provides a barrier to control livestock, wildlife, or human movement, or to limit access to an area or property. Fences can be **permanent** or **temporary**.

Common Uses:

- Manage sensitive riparian areas
- Protect an area from livestock/people
- Rotationally graze pastures
- Separate livestock types
- Protect property



Benefits:

- Reduced crop loss/damage from wildlife
- Improved pasture quality
- Improved livestock health and production
- Reduced feed costs
- Improved riparian area/stream quality

CONSIDERATIONS:

Investment: Fencing is an upfront cash investment in long-term benefits and savings. Funding opportunities are available for permanent fences. Visit <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/> for eligibility information.

Labor and Maintenance: Fencing requires an initial labor investment to install fence materials with some maintenance over time. For example, weeds under the fence may need control, and materials may need occasional replacement.

TYPES OF FENCES:

Fencing can be permanent or temporary, or somewhere in between, and many different kinds of fencing are available for each option.

Temporary:

These fences are designed to be in place for short periods of time. Temporary fences offer **flexibility** for frequent animal movement (such as in a rotational grazing system) or when the exact areas of movement differ from time to time (such as for temporary stream and riparian protection).



Permanent:

Permanent fences are intended to be in place for a long time with **minimum maintenance** requirements. Built with durable materials, they are constructed for a long life span. Permanent fences are most often used as exterior pasture fencing, or to line property boundaries.

Comparison Chart:

Fence Type	Cost	Durability	Maintenance	Flexibility
<i>Temporary</i>	Low-Medium	1-5 years	Frequent	High
<i>Permanent</i>	High	Up to 20 years	Low	Low

Many materials can be used to construct a fence.

To pick one, ask yourself:

- (1) **What is the purpose of the fence?**
- (2) **Will it need to be electrified?**
- (3) **How often will it be moved?**
- (4) **What is your budget?**

With these answers in mind, do research into these example types – pick one that you know fills the most of your requirements!

Example Types

- woven wire
- electric fences
- high-tensile wire
- barbed wire fence
- wood or board fences
- net or mesh wire fences
- other non-conventional fencing
- heavy use area containment fence

INSTALLING THE PRACTICE:

Once you've chosen a fence type and material follow the steps below to install your new system!

STEPS:

1. Map the intended fence area

Figure out where you will lay the fence line. *Make sure to check for buried utilities!*

2. Calculate and Obtain Materials

Based on the fence type and material chosen, calculate the amount of posts, wire or boards you will need.

3. Line and set posts

Adhere to spacing and height rules of the fence type you're using. Check with fence manufacturer or your local NRCS office if you are unsure.

4. Brace Post Anchors and install gates

5. Set (string) wire or fence materials



High-Tensile Wire



Single Wire



Woven Wire

Note: Riparian Protection

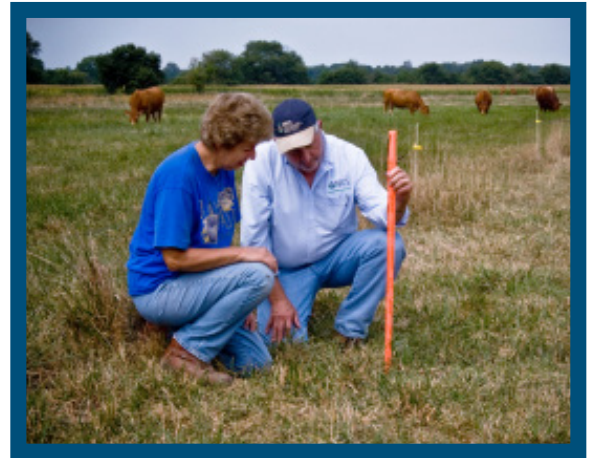
Fencing is an effective best management practice (BMP) to protect riparian and stream habitats that are in need of recovery from erosion, water quality, and/or vegetation problems. Avoid livestock contact with streams whenever possible to maintain maximum water quality. Ideal pasture/stream distances vary based on the stream's characteristics and program requirements. Check with your local NRCS office for advice and assistance.

Conservation Solutions for your Pennsylvania Farm

Technical Help Is Available

Your local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office has experienced conservationists that can assist you plan and install a fence. Detailed plans and instructions are available on how to install fences. They can also help you develop a Conservation Plan to solve other problems you have identified on your farm.

There is no charge for our assistance. Simply call your local office at the number listed below to set up an appointment for someone to come to your farm.



You may also be eligible to receive financial assistance Helping People Help the Land through state or federal programs. Your NRCS office will explain various programs that are available so you can make the best decision for your operation. All NRCS programs and services are voluntary.

NRCS FIELD OFFICES:

Adams: 717-334-4216 ext 3
Allegheny: 724-482-4800 ext 3
Armstrong: 724-545-1022 ext 3
Beaver: 724-482-4800 ext 3
Bedford: 814-623-7900 ext 3
Berks: 610-372-4655 ext 3
Blair: 814-695-6291 ext 3
Bradford: 570-265-6969 ext 3
Bucks: 215-453-9527 ext 3
Butler: 724-482-4800 ext 3
Cambria: 814-472-5502 ext 3
Cameron: 814-375-2125 ext 3
Carbon: 570-779-0645 ext 3
Centre: 570-726-3196 ext 3
Chester: 610-696-0398 ext 3
Clarion: 814-226-8160 ext 3
Clearfield: 814-375-2125 ext 3
Clinton: 570-726-3196 ext 3
Columbia: 570-784-1062 ext 3
Crawford: 814-724-1852 ext 3
Cumberland: 717-249-1037 ext 3

Dauphin: 717-921-2380 ext 3
Delaware: 610-696-0398 ext 3
Elk: 814-375-2125 ext 3
Erie: 814-796-6760 ext 3
Fayette: 724-437-7971 ext 3
Forest: 814-226-8160 ext 3
Franklin: 717-264-8074 ext 3
Fulton: 717-485-3812 ext 3
Greene: 724-627-5821
Huntingdon: 814-627-1626 ext 3
Indiana: 724-463-8547 ext 3
Jefferson: 814-375-2125 ext 3
Juniata: 717-436-8953 ext 3
Lackawanna: 570-282-8732 ext 3
Lancaster: 717-299-5361 ext 3
Lawrence: 717-662-3740 ext 3
Lebanon: 717-272-3908 ext 3
Lehigh: 610-625-8392 ext 3
Luzerne: 570-779-0645 ext 3
Lycoming: 570-433-3902 ext 3
McKean: 814-274-8166 ext 3
Mercer: 717-662-3740 ext 3
Mifflin: 717-248-9541 ext 3

Monroe: 570-282-8732 ext 3
Montgomery: 215-453-9527 ext 3
Northampton: 610-625-8392 ext 3
Northumberland: 570-286-7114 ext 3
Perry: 717-582-4144 ext 3
Pike: 570-282-8732 ext 3
Potter: 814-274-8166 ext 3
Schuylkill: 570-622-1312 ext 3
Snyder: 570-837-0007 ext 3
Somerset: 814-445-6876 ext 3
Sullivan: 570-265-6969 ext 3
Susquehanna: 570-278-1011 ext 3
Tioga: 570-724-1726 ext 3
Union: 570-524-2549
Warren: 814-723-1217
Washington: 724-222-3060 ext 3
Wayne: 570-282-8732 ext 3
Westmoreland: 724-834-3970 ext 3
Wyoming: 570-836-2490 ext 3
Venango: 814-226-8160 ext 3
York: 717-755-2966 ext 3