

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

FENCE

(Feet)

CODE 382

DEFINITION

A constructed barrier to livestock, wildlife or people.

used that best provides the needs for the style of fence required and is best suited for the topography of the landscape.

PURPOSES

This practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system to facilitate the application of conservation practices that treat the soil, water, air, plant, animal, and human resource concerns.

CONSIDERATIONS

Consider installing fences in locations that will facilitate maintenance avoiding irregular terrain and/or water crossings.

Consider wildlife movement needs when locating fences.

CONDITIONS WHERE THIS PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice may be applied on any area where livestock and/or wildlife control is needed, or where access to people is to be regulated. Fences are not needed where natural barriers will serve the purpose.

Consider livestock management, handling, watering and feeding when locating fences.

Consider kinds and habitats of livestock and wildlife.

Consider location and adequacy of water facilities.

CRITERIA

Fencing materials shall be of high quality and durability, and the construction performed to meet the intended management objectives.

Consider topographic features and soil site characteristics.

Boundary fences shall comply with state laws and standards for construction.

Fences shall be positioned to facilitate management requirements.

Where applicable, clear right-of-ways will be established which will facilitate fence construction and maintenance.

Standard or conventional (barbed or smooth wire), suspension, woven wire, or electric fences shall consist of acceptable fencing designs to control the animal(s) or people of concern and meet the intended life of the practice.

Consider soil erosion potential when planning and constructing a fence on steep slopes.

Consider constructing livestock barriers next to fences where trail erosion may be a problem.

Height, number, and spacing of wires will be installed to facilitate control and management of the animal(s) or people of concern.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications are to be prepared using the Conservation Practice Specification S

Height, size, spacing and type of posts will be

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

**NE-T.G. 504
Section IV
NRCS-DECEMBER 2001**

382 and NE-CPA-1 (Job Sheet for Fence Construction Plan) with drawings. **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Regular inspection of fences should be part of an on-going management program. Inspection of fences after storm events is needed to facilitate the function of the intended use of the fence.

Maintenance and repairs will be performed as needed to facilitate the intended operation of the installed fence.