

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS**

**FENCE - TEMPORARY**

**(Ft.)**

**CODE 382**

**V. Temporary Fence**

Temporary fencing may be accomplished with a variety of materials that control livestock for a short period. Livestock panels or corral panels may be used for temporary fencing. Temporary electric fences are a more flexible and inexpensive means of fencing.

Temporary electric fences are constructed with the intent of remaining in place for only a short time period. The fence is not constructed as an equivalent of a permanent fence; therefore, the criteria for temporary fences requires materials, design, and construction that will accomplish the intended purpose and last for the time period planned with no more maintenance than desired.

The number of wires and spacing will be designed to accomplish the desired result of the fence. (See permanent fence guidance for number of wires and spacing.) Many companies provide portable fence systems that use such materials as polyethylene wire and tape with steel or aluminum wire woven into

them, aluminum wire, plastic and fiberglass posts, reels to roll up wire, and portable battery operated energizers that are high voltage and low impedance. These systems can produce sufficient voltage to turn livestock. A minimum of six strands of steel or aluminum wire should be woven into the poly-wire or poly-tape. Temporary fences may be attached to permanent fences to further subdivide pastures. It is best to make connection between fences with an alligator clip type of connector. Follow manufacturer's directions for construction, use, and operation.

**Considerations:**

If a temporary fence remains in place longer than six months, consider replacing it with a permanent fence. White poly-wire is more visible than other poly-wire with the exception of snow-covered landscape. Nine-strand stainless steel poly-wire is more durable than lesser strands. Take poly-wire out of insulators prior to reeling up. Electric net wire is a good alternative for small livestock.