



United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# Fence

## Conservation Practice Job Sheet PA382

<b>Owner:</b>	<b>Farm #:</b>
<b>Field(s):</b>	<b>Tract #:</b>
<b>Conservation Plan By:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

### Definition

A constructed barrier to animals or people.

### Purpose (check all that apply)

- Exclude livestock from areas that should be protected from grazing
- Control livestock where permanent fencing is installed as a component of a rotational grazing system
- Confine livestock on an area
- Control domestic livestock while permitting wildlife movement
- Regulate access to areas by people, to prevent trespassing, or for purposes of safety
- Control wildlife access from an area

### Condition where practice applies:

This practice applies to sites or areas 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 service the purpose. This standard applies to permanent fencing with a minimum functional design life of 20 years. This standard does not include portable fencing described in the prescribed grazing standard.

### Criteria:

- Fencing shall consist of acceptable fencing designs to control the animal(s) or people of concern and will meet the intended life of the practice.
- Property line fence shall comply with State and local laws and standards for construction.
- Fencing materials shall be of a high quality and durability, and the construction performed to meet the intended management objectives.
- Fences shall be positioned to facilitate management requirements.
- Material used shall be new and have a 20 year life expectancy.

### Considerations:

The fence design and location should consider the following: installing fences in locations that will facilitate periodic maintenance; avoiding irregular terrain such as gullies and/or water crossings; raising lower wire of fences located in the floodplain; wildlife habitat and movement needs; livestock management, handling, watering, and feeding; soil properties including erosion potential when planning and constructing a fence on steep slopes.

**THIS CONSERVATION PRACTICE JOB SHEET IS NOT NEEDED TO ACCOMPANY THE FOLLOWING ENGINEERING PRACTICES: Heavy Use Area Protection (561), Waste Storage Facility (313) and Waste Transfer (634).**

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### Safety:

Underground utilities are a hazard on most Pennsylvania farms. It is the duty of the contractor to comply with current provisions of the PA One-Call utility check and any amendments before performing any work. The planning and design serial number is \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

Please Contact PA One-Call Prior to Fence Installation: Dial 8-1-1 or 1-800-242-1776; website: [www.pa1call.org](http://www.pa1call.org)

### OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE:

- The fence should have a minimum life-span of twenty years with minimal maintenance. Routine inspections of the fence should be part of an on-going management system.
- Inspection of the fence after storm events is needed to facilitate proper function of the fence. Overhanging trees and limbs should be trimmed or removed as needed. Fallen trees and limbs should be removed immediately.
- Maintain proper tension on all wires. Repair or replace any broken wire, in-line strainers or other tensioning devices.
- Maintain proper spacing on fence wires. Refer to original plan for appropriate spacing.
- Clear brush from all fence lines regularly. Vegetative control may be accomplished by mowing techniques or by using herbicides applied per the manufacturer's label.
- Electric fences will be checked regularly to determine the voltage on the fence. If the voltage is not sufficient, determine the cause and correct the problem. During extended dry periods, the ground rods may need water applied to the soil around them.
- Flood gates must be maintained and kept clear of debris. During extended flooding periods, switch electrified gates off.
- Safety during construction is an ever present concern. Wire that is over-stretched may break and recoil. Hand and eye protection should be worn during all fence construction and repair.
- Inspect and maintain gates and floodgates. Replace missing chains, hinges, and movable parts as needed.

**Specifications are prepared in accordance with the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. See Conservation Practice Standard *Fence* (382) and Fence Materials and Construction Specifications.**

Additional provisions are entered on the job sketch sheet.



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### Exterior Fence (note location on map below or attach map).

Total Footage \_\_\_\_\_

#### Type of Fence (circle one):

High Tensile      Woven Wire      Barbed Wire      Wooden      Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Wire:**      Number of Strands \_\_\_\_\_      Type of Wire \_\_\_\_\_      Gauge \_\_\_\_\_

**Posts:**      Corner/End Posts      Horizontal Brace Posts      Line Post

Type      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Diameter (in.)      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Depth or length (ft.)      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Post Space (ft.)      \_\_\_\_\_

### Interior Fence (note location on map below or attach map).

Total Footage \_\_\_\_\_

#### Type of Fence (circle one):

High Tensile      Woven Wire      Barbed Wire      Wooden      Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Wire:**      Number of Strands \_\_\_\_\_      Type of Wire \_\_\_\_\_      Gauge \_\_\_\_\_

**Posts:**      Corner/End Posts      Horizontal Brace Posts      Line Post

Type      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Diameter (in.)      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Depth or length (ft.)      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Post Space (ft.)      \_\_\_\_\_



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## Sketch of Fence Installation or Attach Map.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a hand-drawn sketch of fence installation or an attached map.

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### Practice Certification (check one)

- The supporting check out data are consistent with the requirements of the practice specifications needed to meet the criteria for the planned purpose(s) of the practice. The Operation and Maintenance requirements of the practice have been effectively communicated to the client and prompt follow through is reasonably expected.
  
- The supporting check out data are NOT consistent with the specifications of the planned practice. The inconsistencies listed below or attached have been found. However, the requirements of the practice and its intended function are still being met.

Signature of qualified practice checker: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Acceptable Inconsistencies:

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### Noted Deficiencies and Date Addressed:

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