

Do You Have Problems With

- Cows standing and drinking in a dirty stream?
- Cows tearing up the banks of your pond or stream when they get a drink?
- Livestock walking a long way to get water?
- Cows over-grazing around your water tank allowing the rest of the pasture to be overgrown?

A Watering Facility Can Help

A watering facility can be a permanent or portable watering trough or a device like a nose pump that lets cows pump water from a stream or pond.

Benefits of a Watering Facility:

- Improve the health of your livestock by providing clean, safe, dependable drinking water.
- Save the time and work of hauling water to animals.
- Help you manage your pastures to make them more productive.
- Reduce time livestock spend in your pond or stream.
- Reduce bank erosion caused by livestock.



Heavy Equipment Tire Waterer - Cut out side wall with reciprocating saw or chainsaw. Pack clay in concreted bottom, galvanized pipe through concrete, and install rack to keep livestock out of tank.



Locate watering facilities so fields can be cross-fenced in the future, and locate away from sensitive areas such as drainageways and low areas.

Cost for a Watering Facility

The cost for a watering facility will be different depending on what you build and where the water comes from. Some of the costs to think about are:

- Distance to electricity.
- Developing a water source such as a spring, well, or municipal water.
- Piping from the water source to the watering facility.
- Type of water trough or tank.
- Protecting the area around the watering facility.
- Fencing.
- Use of a contractor vs. installing yourself.
- Surface pipe vs. burying pipe.

Watering Facility

Sources of Water

A watering facility requires that you have a good, clean source of water. Some of the sources to think about are:

Stream	Pond
Well	Spring
Public Water System	Sistron

How do I install a watering facility?

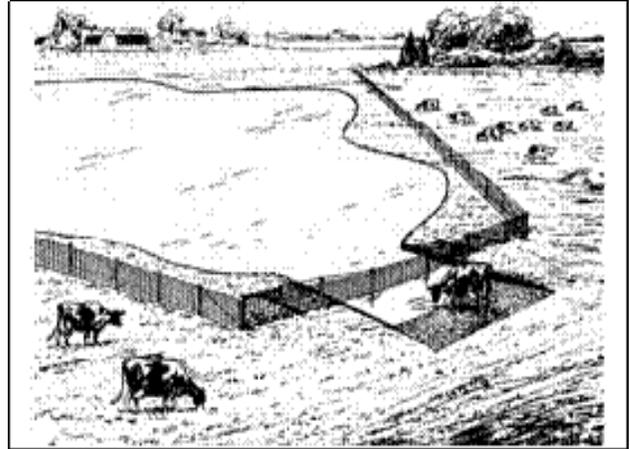
The watering facility needs to be placed on a well-drained, firm foundation and the area around the facility protected from erosion, ponding, and over-use by livestock.

Pipes should be run to the watering facility. For permanent watering facilities, the pipes should be buried 18 plus inches so they will not be damaged or freeze. For watering facilities that will be moved, pipes can be laid on the ground down a fence line out of the way of livestock and equipment. Drain the pipes before freezing weather.

If the water source is also used for human consumption, it should be protected. Things such as check valves, air gaps, or anti-siphon devices are needed to prevent contamination of the water source. Contact local water district concerning codes and requirements to prevent cross-contamination of public and ground water systems.

How do I maintain the watering facility?

- Regularly check the flow of water to the trough.
- Look for leaks and fix them right away.
- If you have a float valve, check it regularly to make sure it is working.
- Areas around the trough can get wet and muddy. Stop any leaks and clean up eroded areas.
- Drain and clean out troughs at least once a year.



A farm pond as a source of water with heavy use area access - Locate access point away from natural drainage points.



Installation of Pipes to a Permanent Water Tank with overflow pipe outlet well away from the trough.



Temporary water lines placed on the ground. Portable tanks need a high-density burst-proof pipe. Recharge of 3-5 gpm needed per cow drinking.

Watering Facility

Different Types of Watering Facilities to Consider



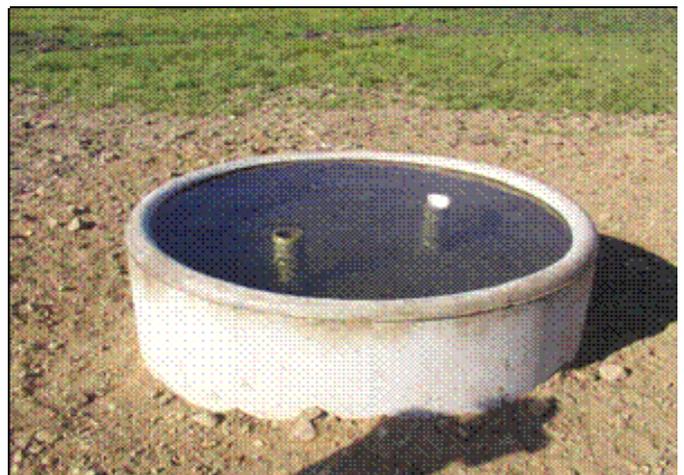
Heavy Duty Plastic Water Trough



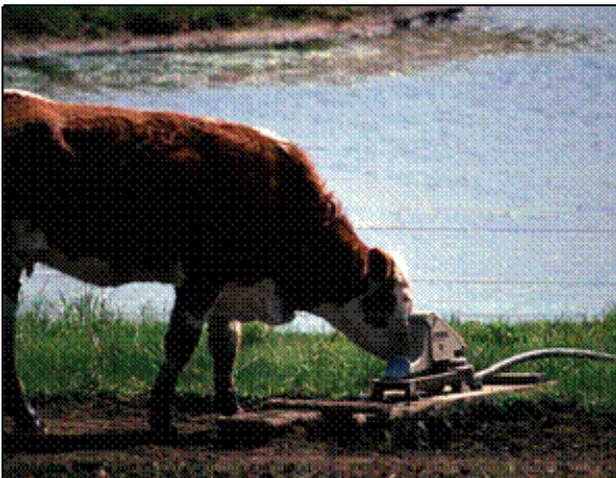
Freeze-proof Waterer



Heavy Equipment Tire Water Trough



Permanent Concrete Water Trough



Nose Pump



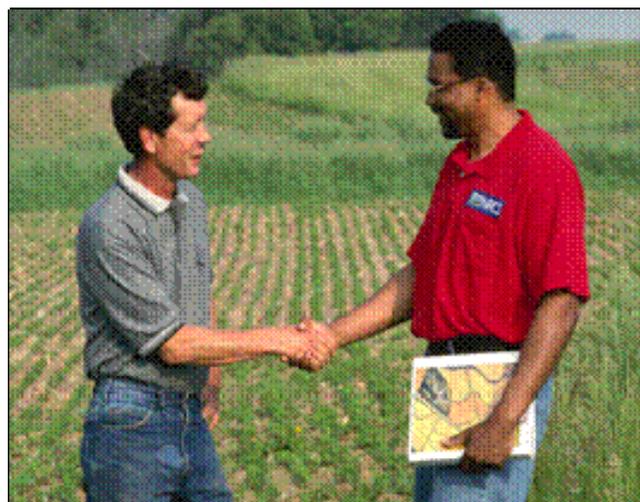
Steel Tank Water Trough

SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR FARM IN**COUNTY****Technical Help Is Available**

Your local Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office has experienced conservationists that can assist you with planning and helping you install a Watering Facility. 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. Call your local office at the number listed below to set up an appointment, and we will come to your farm.

You may also be eligible to receive financial assistance through a State or Federal program. Your NRCS office will explain any programs that are available so you can make the best decision for your operation. All NRCS programs and services are voluntary.



Helping People Help the Land

For more information contact the:

Natural Resources Conservation Service

<http://www.tn.nrcs.usda.gov>

or

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg>

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