

UVM Extension Fact Sheet: Champlain Valley Crop, Soil and Pasture Team

Fence Exclusion for Livestock Farmers

The Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP)

Funded by a grant from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and the Lake Champlain Basin Program

Who is eligible: All livestock farmers in the Lake Champlain Watershed.

Incentive payments based on **90% of the actual costs** of installing infrastructure to encourage livestock exclusion from streams, including:

Fence: Must be the equivalent of single strand poly-wire, unless site-specific conditions and/or livestock type demand a more robust fence. Fencing selection should be the minimum required for the livestock type. For instance, fences made completely of wood or plastic composite may be aesthetically pleasing, however they are not the most cost effective fencing option to meet the needs of the livestock. If a landowner chooses to build a fence greater than that of the minimum, the additional costs will be the responsibility of the landowner. The landowner will be reimbursed for the materials on a per linear foot costs at 90% of total actual cost.

Pipeline: There are no limitations on the type of pipeline system installed so long as it meets the intended purpose and is not excessive in meeting the needs of the livestock type. Costs may not exceed \$0.60/foot or \$2,000 per project.

Water Source Development: Where clean water is not readily available, alternative sources such as shallow wells, pump stations, etc. can be developed. The expectation is that the lowest cost alternative will be implemented to meet the needs of the project. Costs may not exceed \$4,000 per project.

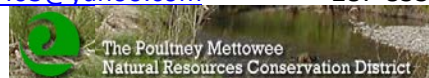
Water Tanks: There are no limitations on the type of watering tank/trough so long as it meets the intended purposed and is not excessive for the livestock types and use demands. Costs may not exceed \$1,000 per project.

Stream Crossings: Where possible an in-stream ford shall be installed with geo-textile fabric and stone rather than a culvert. The goal is to keep the stream channel open and not to create restrictions. In instances where the in-stream ford is not feasible, the grantee will need to perform the necessary work to ensure the culvert is appropriately sized and set, and that the slopes of the approaches are designed to minimize erosion or mass failures. Costs may not exceed \$3,000 per project.

Electric Fence Chargers: Most farms have a fence charger, however in the event that the current charger cannot meet the capacity of the newly installed fencing or a charger does not exist, up to \$300 per farm may be spent on a charger.

For more information, please contact the UVM Extension Champlain Valley Crop, Soil & Pasture Team

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