Fence (382)

A fence is a constructed barrier to livestock, wildlife, or people.

Practice Information

This practice may be applied to any area where livestock and/or wildlife control is needed, or where access to people is to be regulated.

A wide variety of fences exist, however, fencing material and construction quality is always designed and installed to assure the fence will meet the intended purpose. The standard fence is constructed of either barbed or smooth wire suspended by posts with support structures. Other types include woven wire for small animals, electric fence, and suspension fences which are designed with heavy, but widely spaced posts and support structures.

Things to consider when planning a fence:
- avoid irregular terrain as much as possible
- impact on wildlife movement with regard to
- State and local laws
- livestock handling, watering, and feeding requirements

Operation and maintenance for fence include regular inspections after storms and other disturbance events. Maintain and repair fence as needed, including tree/limb removal and water-gap replacement.

Common Associated Practices

Fence (382) is commonly applied with conservation practices such as Prescribed Grazing (528), and Use Exclusion (472).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.