

CONFINED LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

It all begins with a farm visit!

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) make farm visits, develop plans, and provide technical and financial support for a variety of confined livestock facilities to address your natural resource concerns. As your conservation decision partner, NRCS provides free assistance for landowners to help reach land use goals. Our local offices, staffed with conservation professionals with local knowledge, can help you make well-informed conservation decisions.

We love what we do!

That's working with farmers and forest landowners like you to start, expand, enhance, or improve your natural resources and put conservation practices in place that will benefit the soil, water, air, and wildlife.

Getting Started with NRCS

Schedule a Farm Visit. Call or email your local USDA Service Center to set up a farm visit.

How to Prepare. What is your vision for your land and farm? What are your challenges? Prepare a list of questions and concerns for your NRCS conservation specialist.

What to Expect. An NRCS team member will visit your property and ask about your dreams and goals for your land and can help you develop a plan to obtain them. During our farm visit we can discuss conservation planning and what financial and technical support is available for you.



Confined Livestock

The confinement of beef and dairy cattle, swine and poultry have greatly increased production efficiency and reduced the pressure on our nation's lands, but the concentration of domestic animals that comes with confinement brings it's own resource challenges.

Confined Livestock Systems



Roofted Winter Feeding Facilities

Roofted livestock winter feeding stations provide a place for animals to feed during winter months. The concrete pad protects the feeding area from erosion and aids in manure collection, while the roof helps to keep excessive moisture out of the manure and the feed.



Concrete/Gravel Aprons

A challenge that confined livestock producers manage during the wet season is mud, which can deteriorate areas of heavy use. Concrete or gravel pads prevents soil erosion, creating more sustainability.



Waste Storage Facilities

The more livestock you manage the more likely it will be necessary to construct a special manure storage facility. The storage must be able to keep the manure from washing away and its nutrients from leaking into the groundwater. It should also keep odors to a minimum.



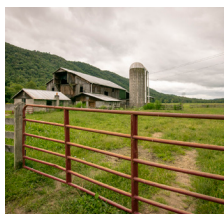
**West Virginia
Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

WV 2024

Benefits of Managing Confined Livestock

- Improved water quality
- Improved energy efficiency of farming operations and facilities
- Decreased erosion
- Decreased soil compaction
- Improved animal health and productivity

Our Conservation Partners



NRCS experts from many disciplines work together with state and local partners to ensure effective conservation practices. Individually the federal, state, and nonprofit groups that comprise our conservation partnerships have a diversity of expertise in discipline,

location/area, and focus. As partners in conservation, we share our unique areas of expertise to better put sustainable conservation on your land.

Partners NRCS frequently work with for Grazing Management include:

- WV Association of Conservation Districts
- WV Department of Agriculture
- WV Conservation Agency
- WVU Extension
- West Virginia University Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design
- USDA Farm Service Agency
- Various Non-Profit Organizations

Contact Us WV USDA Service Centers

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| Beckley | 681-220-5761 |
| Buckeye | 304-779-4317 |
| Cross Lanes | 304-776-5256 ext 108 |
| Elkins | 304-635-4399 |
| Franklin | 304-358-2285 ext 3019 |
| Huntington | 304-697-6033 ext 8396 |
| Keyser | 304-788-2332 ext 108 |
| Kingwood | 304-441-3770 |
| Lewisburg | 681-318-4025 |
| Martinsburg | 681-247-3016 |
| McMechen | 304-238-5648 |
| Middlebourne | 304-758-2173 |
| Moorefield | 304-530-2825 ext 106 |
| Mount Clare | 304-566-3727 |
| Parkersburg | 304-422-9072 ext 111 |
| Petersburg | 304-257-4702 ext 117 |
| Philippi | 304-457-4516 ext 115 |
| Point Pleasant | 304-675-2020 |
| Princeton | 304-557-3128 |
| Ranson | 304-930-9043 |
| Ripley | 304-514-7171 |
| Romney | 304-822-3020 ext 101 |
| Spencer | 304-519-3007 |
| Summersville | 304-618-6126 |
| Sutton | 304-364-5013 |
| Union | 304-772-3006 |
| Weston | 681-533-4128 |
| White Hall | 304-368-6910 |

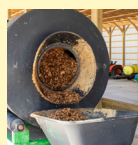
Common West Virginia Confined Livestock Practices



Heavy Use Area Protection The stabilization or protection of an intensively used area reduces soil erosion; provides a stable, nonerodable surface for areas frequently used by animals, people, or vehicles; and protects or improves water quality.



Waste Storage Facility The waste storage facility provides temporary storage of manure, agricultural by-products, wastewater, and/or contaminated runoff. The facility allows agricultural operation management flexibility for waste utilization. Storage structure types include liquid waste storage ponds or tanks, and solid waste stacking structures.



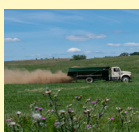
Animal Mortality Facility An animal mortality facility is designed to reduce the impacts to soil and groundwater resources, reduce the impacts of odors, and decrease the spread of pathogens associated with animal mortality.



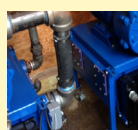
Roofs and Covers Roofs and covers are installed to prevent the escape of gases from waste facilities and to exclude precipitation from these facilities. This practice can also utilize a roof to divert clean water from animal management areas and/or waste storage facilities.



Underground Outlet An underground outlet carries excess surface water to a suitable outlet from terraces, water and sediment control basins, diversions, waterways, surface drains, or other similar practices to prevent causing damage by concentrated flow erosion, flooding, or ponding.



Nutrient Management Nutrient management is used to improve crop productivity and improve soil organic matter while reducing environmental impacts. This practice manages the rate, source, placement, and timing of plant nutrients and soil amendments.



Farmstead Energy Improvement The purpose of this practice is to implement improvements to reduce or improve energy efficiency of on-farm energy use. Energy conservation allows farmers to save money through reduced fuel consumption and energy use, and lowering operation costs.

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