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**Tools for Land**



# Fences are management tools!

- Fences can help reduce livestock ownership costs.
- Fences control the movement of animals, use of forage and impacts to the land.

The tool you use depends on your time, available funds and desired outcome.





# Fencing considerations

- Balance looks, functionality and economics
- Safety of animals and people
- Installed or do-it-yourself
- Life expectancy
- Annual maintenance



# Fence Quotes from a local business this week 2/16/06



## Labor & Materials

- Plastic Vinyl- 4 rail \$10.25 per linear foot
- Wood- 4 rail \$10.50 per linear ft
- Woven Wire-Wood Fence posts \$6.25 per linear ft
- New Zealand-7 Wire electric \$3.85
- Chain Link- over \$9 per ft
- Barb Wire 4 strand- \$3 per ft

# Fencing considerations to encourage wildlife

- Type and species of wildlife
- Continual or seasonal access needs
- Localized or full access

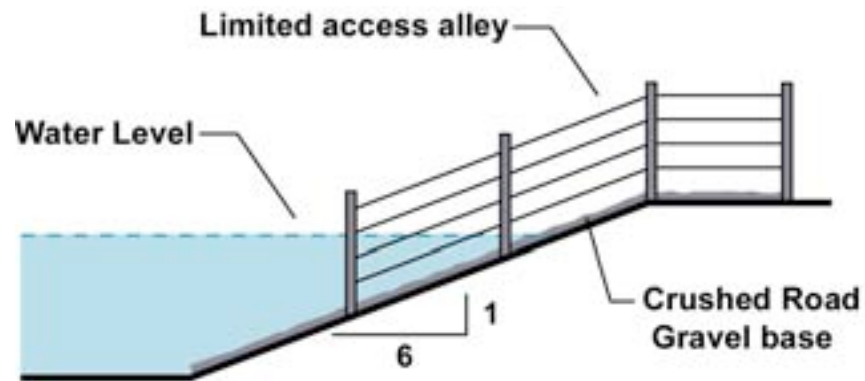


# Fencing to discourage wildlife

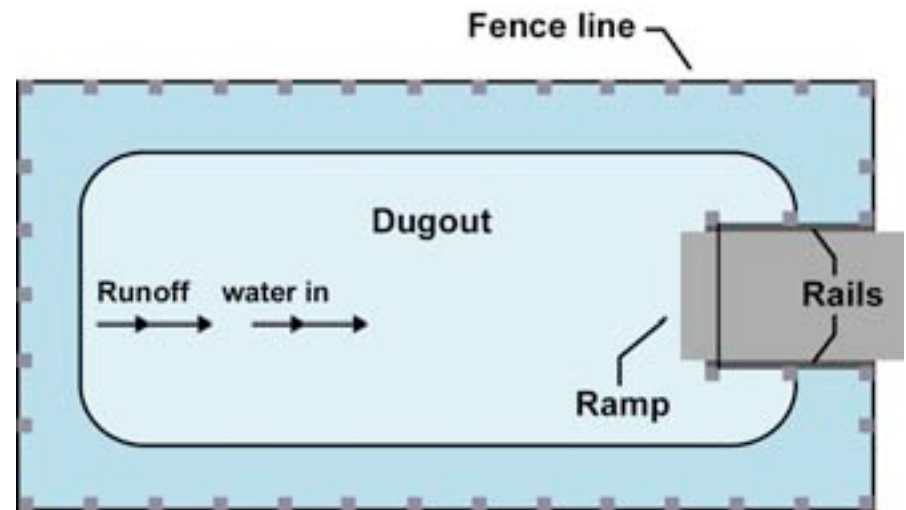
- Type and species of wildlife
- Additional purpose(s) of fencing
- Type of fencing
  - Net wire
  - Electric
  - Electric modification of existing fences
  - Portable electric fences



# Stream or pond access ramps



**Cross Section**



**Plan View**

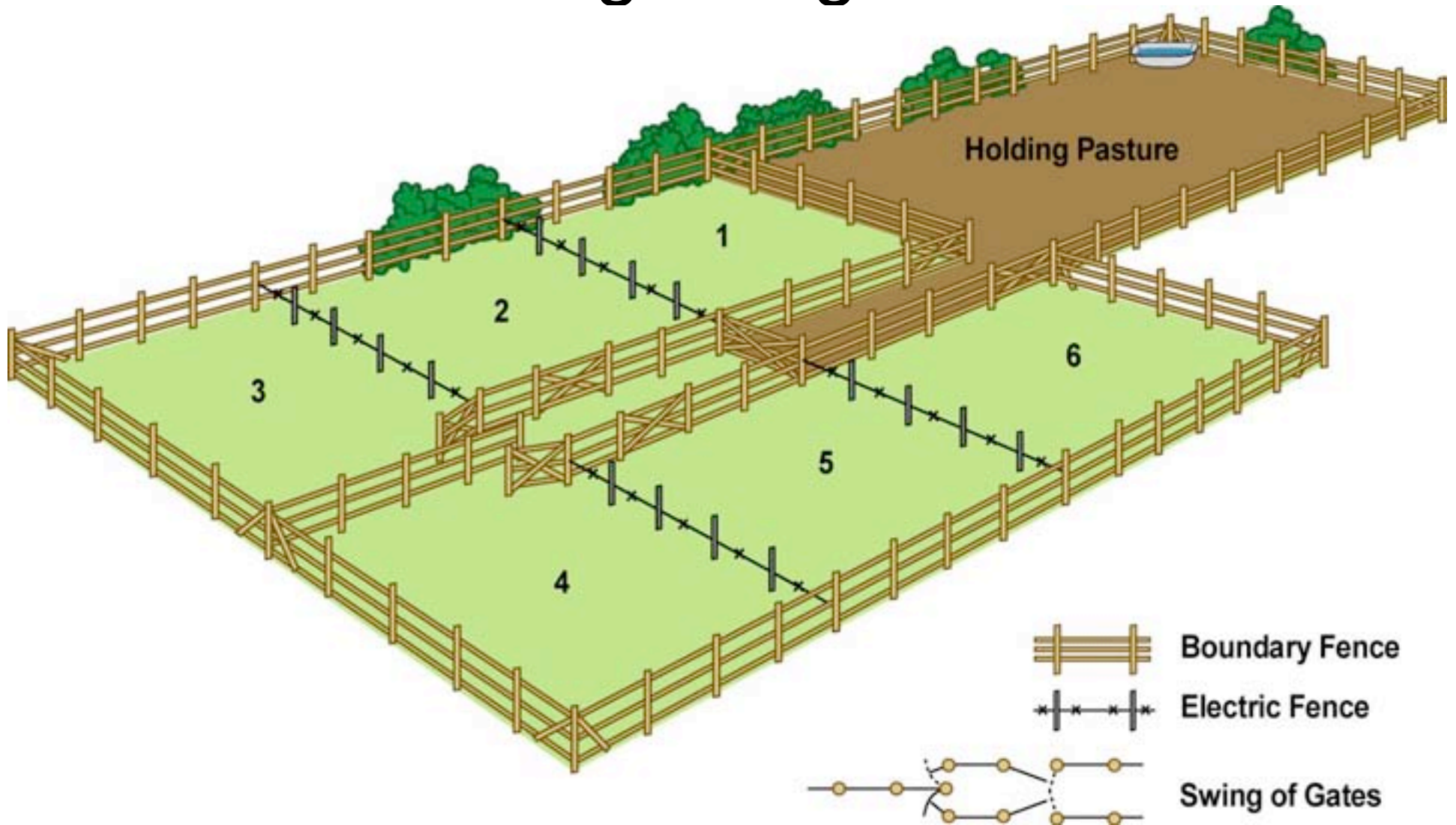
# Stream or pond access ramps concentration areas need stronger fences



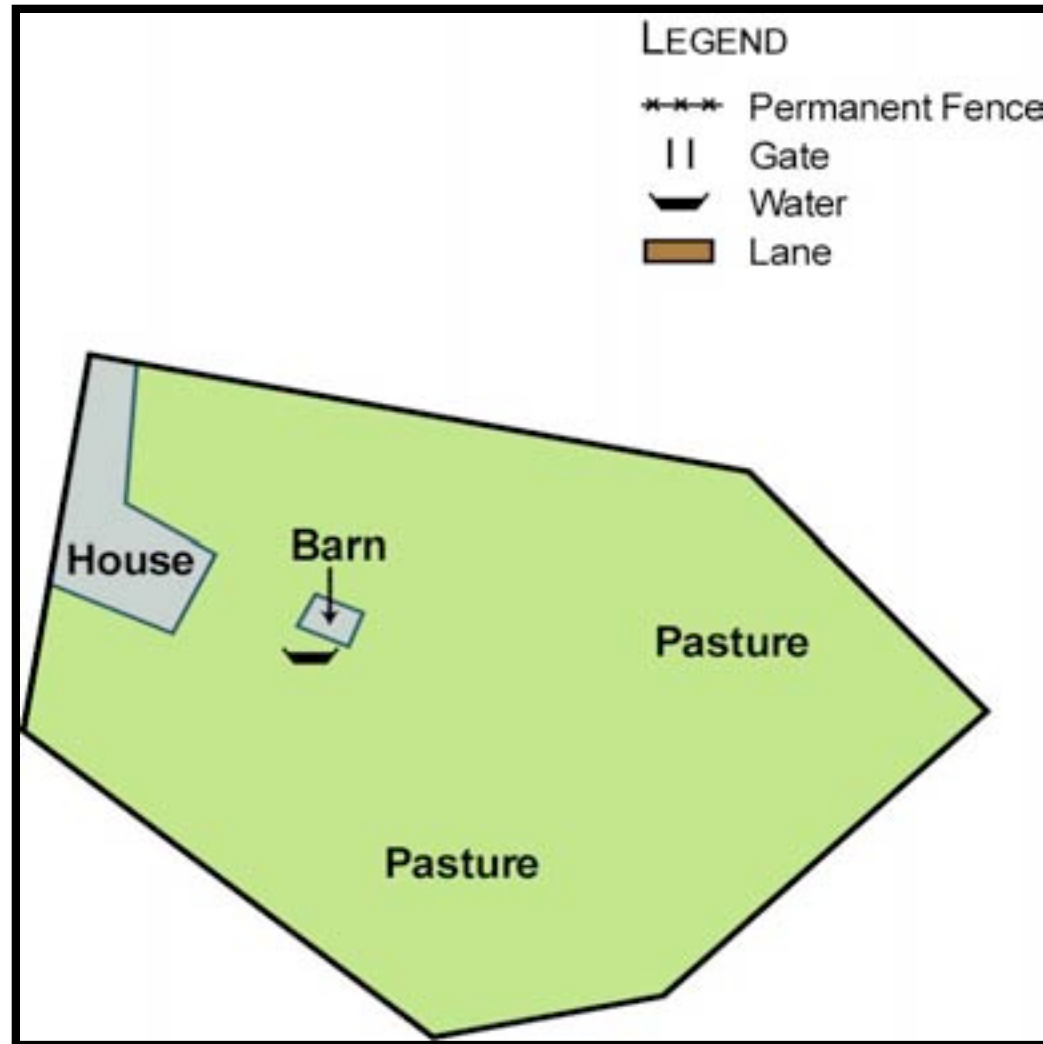
NRCS, Bozeman, MT



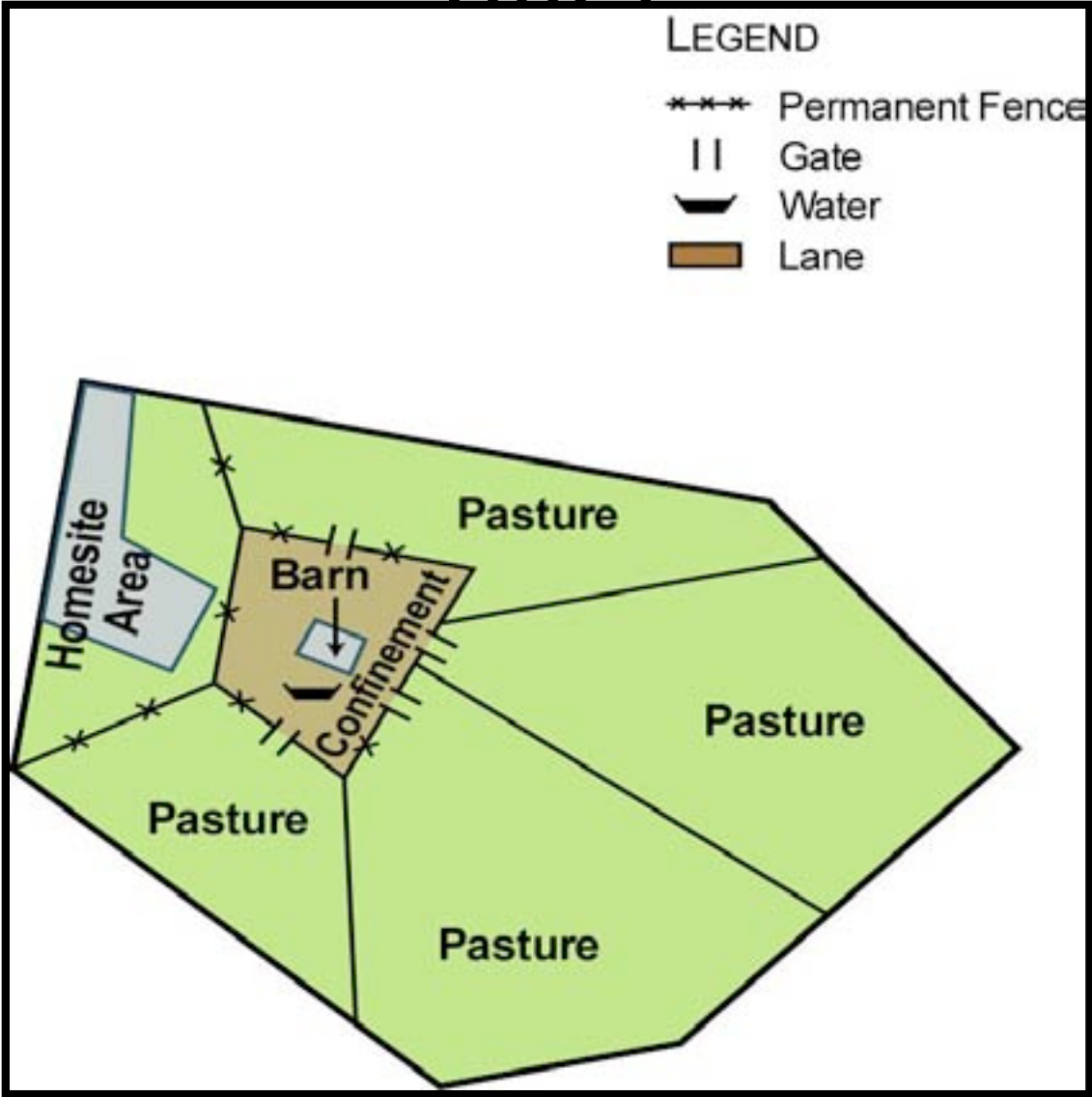
# Rapid rotation or short duration grazing



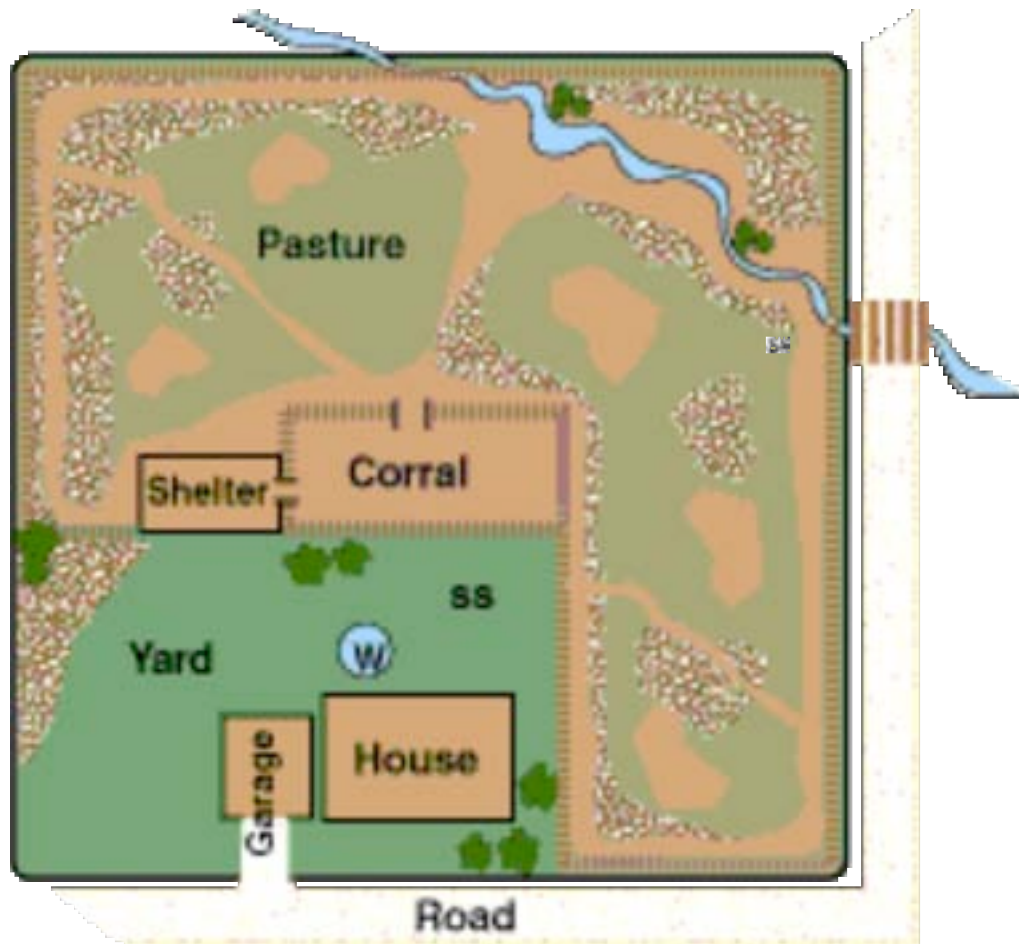
# Radial pasture configuration - before












# Radial pasture configuration – after



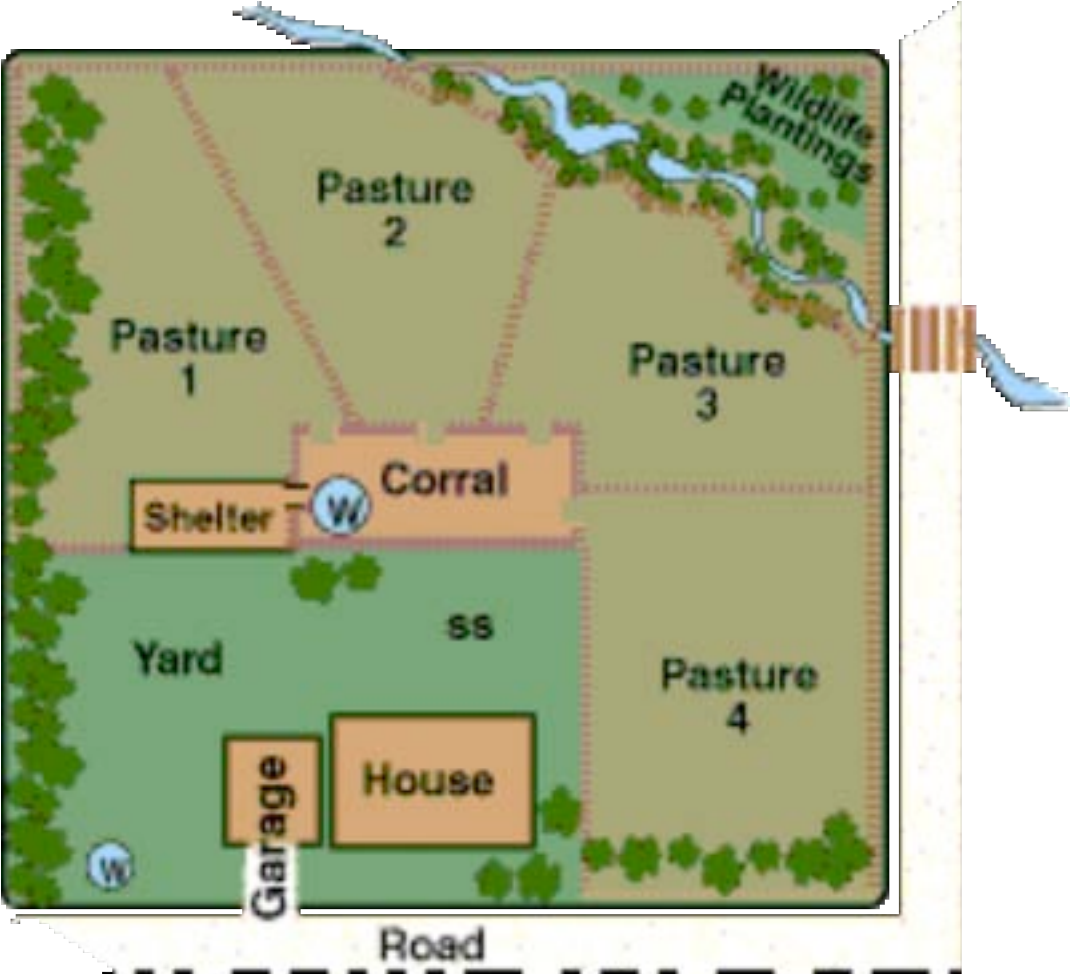
# Another pasture configuration - before












## Explanation

-  Bare
-  Buildings
-  Fences
-  Lawn
-  Property
-  Streams
-  Trees
-  Water
-  Weeds

# Another pasture configuration - after



## Explanation

-  Bare
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# Investigate before you buy!

- Talk to your local Soil & Water Conservation District.
- Ask your neighbors that have effective systems.
- Quiz the local farm store personnel.
- Attend fence building workshop
- Contact the Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Local Watershed Councils
- Private and public Foundations





# Western Oregon Pastures

## THE TRUTH

- Large Animals on wet soils, reduce forage production and create access for WEEDS.
- If you want to get the maximum value of forage from your land you must care for your pastures.
- 3 inch minimum for grass at all times!

# Small pastures require more attention!

- Horses will continue to graze after they have met their nutritional needs.
- The winter hoof action from large animals will scuff access points for weeds.
- Creating a winter turn out or paddock is needed to confine and feed animals to grow healthy pastures.



# Rain + Heavy Use = MUD



- Managing roof water from outbuildings and barns is important to reducing mud.
- Winter turn outs or paddocks are needed to protect environmental and animal health.



CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Soil and Water Conservation District

## Additional Resources

- [www.cc-swcd.org](http://www.cc-swcd.org) 503-656-3499
- Federal Assistance
- [www.nrcs.usda.gov/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/)
- Fencing Specs
- [www.foothill.net/~ringram/fenceopt.htm](http://www.foothill.net/~ringram/fenceopt.htm)
- OSU Small Farms
- <http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/>