

Keeping Livestock on Small Acreages

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Protecting our drinking water, families and animals

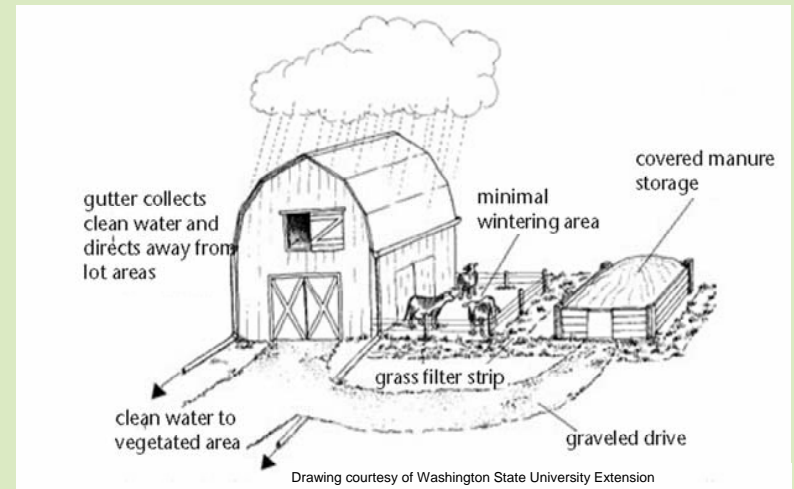


Manure and compost piles



Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

- Cover and contain manure and compost piles to prevent rain, snow and runoff from mixing with them. Consider roofing these areas.
- Line these areas with a plastic liner or tarp, organic materials such as leaves or woodchips, or impervious surfaces such as concrete.
- Surround these areas with vegetative buffers to soak up "dirty" water. Keep it from flowing towards a water resource or leaving the property.
- Spread manure or compost on gardens and cropland that need it. Don't guess, soil test. If land is not available, find interested gardeners or truck it to a farm or compost facility.



Livestock yards

- Prevent roof and other runoff from entering the yard by installing roof gutters and outlets, and berms and swales. This reduces mud and pollution risks.
- The yard can be lined with concrete or a geo-textile material and gravel to prevent mud and protect animal health.
- Consider roofing part or all of the yard, especially feeding stations, to keep out rain and snow and reduce mud and runoff.
- Surround the yard with vegetative buffers to soak up "dirty" water. Keep it from flowing towards a water resource or leaving the property.



Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension