

# Keeping Livestock and Horses on Small Acreages

[www.uri.edu/ce/healthylandscapes](http://www.uri.edu/ce/healthylandscapes)

Protecting our drinking water, families and animals



## Manure and compost piles

- Locate at least 100 ft. away from a drinking water well.



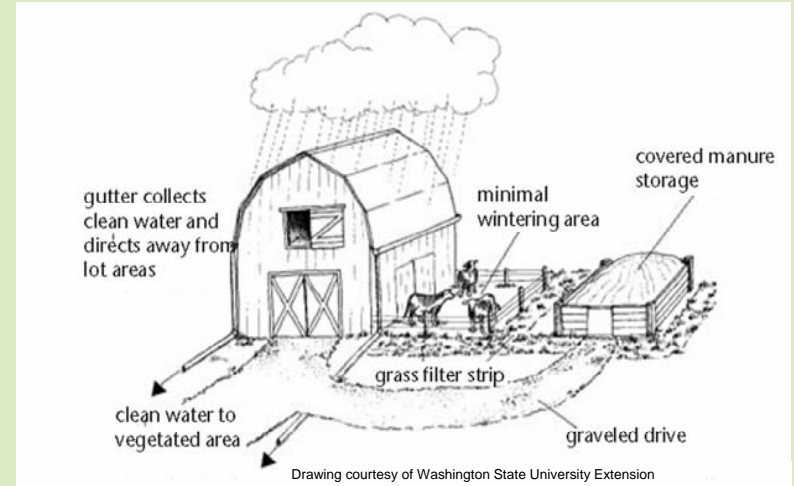
Photo courtesy of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

- 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 haul it to a farm or compost facility.



## Livestock yards

- Locate at least 100 ft. away from a drinking water well.
- Prevent roof and other runoff from entering the yard by installing roof gutters & outlets, and berms & 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 & snow and reduce mud & 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