

Stream Exclusion

Virginia Agricultural Cost-Share Program (VACS)



What is Stream Exclusion?

Stream exclusion is a best management practice (BMP) that fences livestock out of waterways, while providing an alternative water source. This practice will reduce erosion and minimize the runoff of sediment and nutrients. Providing an alternative water source for livestock can improve herd health and maximize grazing acres.

There are a variety of options for stream exclusion fence setbacks and project lifespans available to landowners.

Practice Requirements and Rates

Minimum Fence Setback	Lifespan	Cost-Share Reimbursement Rate
10'	10 years	60%
	15 years	65%
25'	10 years	70%
	15 years	75%
35'	10 years	85%
	15 years	90%
50'	10 years	95%
	15 years	100%

Participants may select their practice lifespan. Lifespan begins on January 1st of the calendar year following payment.

This practice may be eligible for State tax credit in the amount of 25% of eligible out of pocket expenses. Tax credit amount cannot to exceed \$25,000.

Program Details

Eligible practice components include:

- Exclusion and Cross Fence
- Watering Troughs
- Pipeline
- Well and Pumping Components
- Stream Crossing

Stream exclusion projects that have a buffer width of 35 feet or greater also receive a one time buffer incentive payment. This incentive payment is \$80/ac for each year of the lifespan.



Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District:

Lord Fairfax: 540-465-2424 ext. 5
(Clarke, Frederick, Warren, Shenandoah, City of Winchester)

Shenandoah Valley: 540-534-3105
(Rockingham, Page, City of Harrisonburg)

Headwaters: 540-248-0148
(Augusta, City of Staunton, City of Waynesboro)

