

10 Minute Supervisor Trainings



December 2022

Trails and Walkways

This practice is considered a high priority practice for the Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share program (KY State Cost Share), based on criteria outlined in 401 KAR 1:010. This practice is a constructed path with a vegetated, earthen, gravel, paved, or other hard surface to facilitate the movement of animals.

This practice can be requested under the Livestock BMP or the Pastureland BMP. Under the Livestock BMP, this practice includes the use of gravel on geotextile to provide a stable surface and prevent soil erosion when livestock move to and from feeding areas associated with a waste storage facility. Trails and Walkways requested under the Pastureland BMP include the use of gravel on geotextile to provide a stable surface and prevent further soil erosion when livestock move to and from pastureland areas. This includes walkways to winter feeding pads, approaches to stream crossings or to promote rotational grazing.

Purpose

To provide or improve animal access to forage, water, working/handling facilities, or shelter; to protect ecologically sensitive, erosive, or potentially erosive sites.

Operation and Maintenance

The applicant is responsible for proper operation and maintenance, throughout the minimum 10-year design life of the practice, and as may be required by federal, state, or local laws or regulations.



Associated Practices

- Fence
- Critical Area Planting
- Stream Crossing
- Heavy Use Area (Concrete Winter Feeding Area with Feeding Rack, Fence Line Feeding Area, Rock and Geotextile Winter Feeding Pad, Heavy Use Area around Watering Facilities and Gates, As a companion practice to a Waste Storage Facility, Heavy Use Area around Watering Facilities, Heavy Use Area crossing for grassed waterway).

Potential Applicants

Those who own or operate lands where management of animal movement is needed may be potential applicants. This practice does not apply to roads constructed for movement of equipment or vehicles. Approved applicants receive 75% cost share, based on actual receipts, not to exceed the maximum of \$20,000 per application per year.

Outreach

There are many ways to reach producers in your county. Distributing flyers to local businesses, radio advertisements, social media posts, newsletters, producer meetings and field days are just a few ways to provide outreach to those who might be interested in incorporating Trails and Walkways into their operation.

Oversight and Technical Guidance

The Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) administers the KY Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program through local conservation districts in cooperation with the Division of Conservation. Conservation district offices receive applications and submit them through the online public portal. The conservation district keeps the KY State Cost Share Program records and makes payments to producers.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in partnership with the Division of Conservation and conservation districts provide technical assistance and approve practice completion.

More information online

- All BMPs the Kentucky Ag Water Quality Authority has approved: <https://eec.ky.gov/Natural-Resources/Conservation/Pages/Best-Management-Practices.aspx>
- Kentucky Cooperative Extension's Agriculture and Natural Resources publications: <https://anr.ca.uky.edu/anr-publications>
- NRCS's Field Office Technical Guide: <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/>