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Celebrating 1 Million Feet of Conservation Fence in West Virginia!



HARDY COUNTY, WV – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Trout Unlimited, working in partnership with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency, West Virginia Conservation Agency, Canaan Valley NWR, numerous non-governmental organizations and many landowners, have installed over 1 million feet of conservation fence throughout the state of West Virginia. Conservation fencing projects provide a “win-win” for farmers, wildlife, and agencies across the landscape.



The USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in West Virginia and Trout Unlimited have developed a state-of-the-art conservation fence construction crew, equipped with multiple work vehicles and heavy duty equipment, which installs livestock exclusion fencing in priority conservation areas across the state.



Cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay is a high priority for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as many other wildlife conservation organizations. Livestock exclusion fencing is a conservation tool that helps to keep nutrients on the farm and reduces nutrient input into streams throughout the watershed. This habitat treatment also benefits surrounding forest health, water quality, cattle herd health and helps to keep farmers compliant with best management practices.



“One person out in the field working with a farmer to do a project is what it takes to make good conservation practices. One bad experience not only affects that one farmer, but all of his neighbors that they tell them about. By having a good successful program (such as my fencing project), you get a farmer that is more than happy with the results. For 9 years, I’ve told everyone I know about this project. That’s the way you can have this cooperation between the government agencies and farmers, but it takes that spirit of cooperative effort between the employee and the landowner to accomplish these things.”

Warren Mickey, Charles Town, WV
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program participant

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov. To find out more information about the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program or to contact your local Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program biologist, please see our [webpage](#) and [Facebook page](#).

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