

Welcome to Pasture Management 101 Virtual Workshop series provided by Skagit Conservation District in partnership with WSU Skagit County.

Funding for this program is through a PSP Near Term Action hosted by Washington State Department of Health supported by EPA National Estuary Program to maintain healthy and productive shellfish beds in Skagit County.



Spring and Summer workshop series:

May - What does a healthy pasture look like, and how do I make my pasture look like that!

June - Are they weeds or are they food? Why do I have more weeds than grass

July – How do I water my livestock if they can't get to the stream? (Watering systems)

August – Now that it is dry what should I be doing? (Harrow, fertilizer, ditch plugs, mowing)

September – Can I really collect rain water off of my roof and use it on the farm?

MONTHLY FARM PLANNER

SEPTEMBER 2020

PASTURE MANAGEMENT

MONTHLY FARM PLANNER

• SEPTEMBER

- MANAGING ROOF & RUNOFF WATER
- MANAGING DIFFERENT SOURCES OF WATER

September Pasture Tips!

- Spread composted manure.
- This is the time to seed new grass.
- Plant seed before October 15th, or the soil could become too cold and daylight too short for seeds to germinate.
- Install and check existing gutters and downspouts on buildings
- Make sure sacrifice areas are ready for your animals.
- Order hog fuel, chips or other footing material before paddocks get muddy.



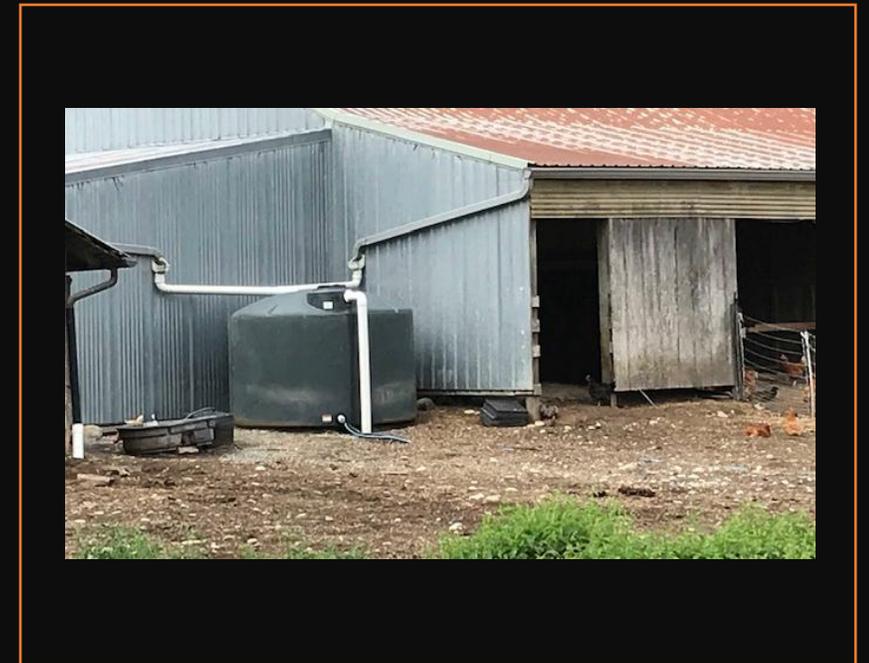
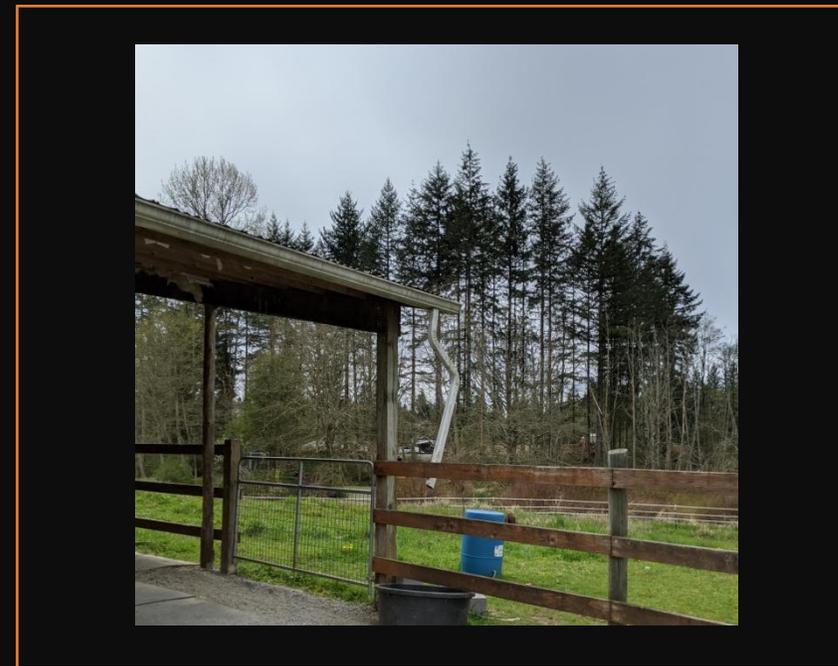
Managing Roof & Runoff Water

- **Purposes and Benefits of Runoff Management:**
 - Runoff management means controlling water running off roofs, driveways, feedlots, and other places around the buildings with livestock.
 - Clean water running off roofs and other hard surfaces can be kept clean, instead of mixing with contaminated water.
 - It's easier to drive and work around the area when it's dry than when it's muddy and wet.
 - Livestock are healthier and cleaner when they are not stuck in the mud.
 - Directing roof runoff away from buildings with guttering and downspouts can also provide water for livestock.

Roof Water Management

Benefits to the Producer:

- Diverting roof and gutter runoff away from buildings will greatly benefit your animals and environment in wet conditions.
- Diverting clean rainwater away from high-traffic areas reduces the amount of pollutants (mud, manure, urine) that's washed into surface waters.
- From a chore standpoint, diverting water away from barnyards, paddocks and high traffic areas avoids creating mud problems and animal health issues.
- Structures such as gutters, downspouts, and outlets that collect, control, and transport precipitation from roofs.
- It will also improve aesthetics and increase property value.
- Improves water quality by reducing sediment, nutrient, bacterial, organic, and inorganic loading to the system.
- Reduces accelerated soil erosion and maintains or improves soil condition.



Bacterial Removal Efficiency:

- Roof runoff structures are primarily designed to control and reduce runoff. Water quality is enhanced by reducing water flow across impervious surfaces and waste areas thereby minimizing pollutant loads (sediment, nutrients, bacteria, organic matter) to surrounding water bodies.
- Roof runoff structures can be used in conjunction with other practices such as fencing, filter strips, and heavy use area protection. These practices have been shown to reduce concentrations of bacteria.



Roof Runoff Outlet

Where Does The Water Go??

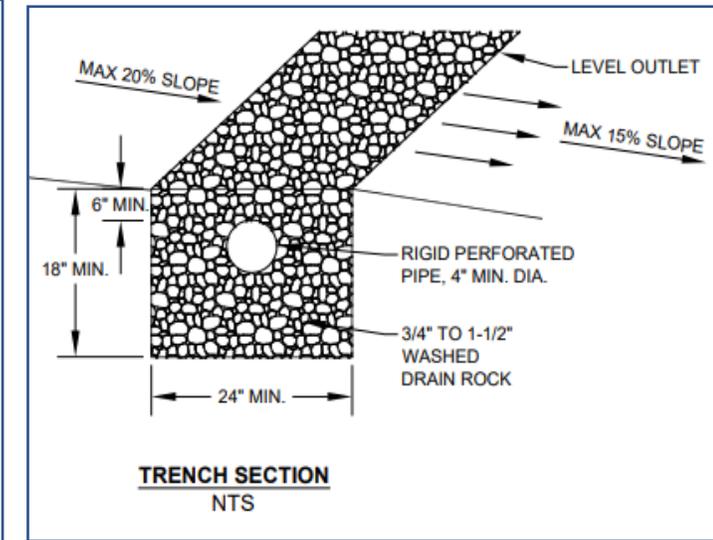
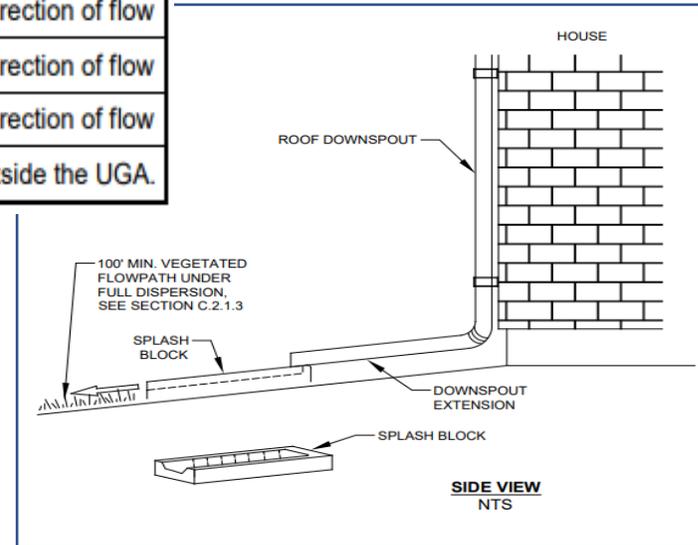
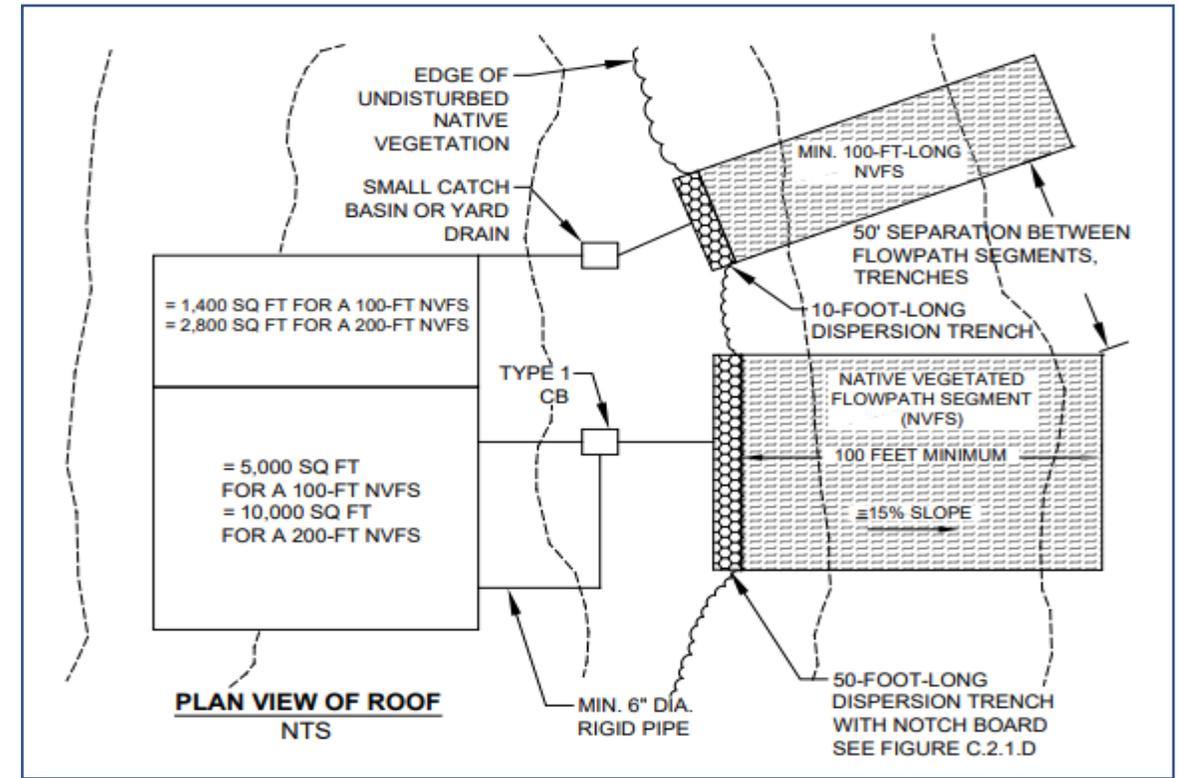
- The goal is to install an overflow pipe that gets the water away from areas used heavily by livestock.
- Overflow can be released to an existing underground drain or stormwater system that was designed to take the roof runoff.
- Identify and isolate a low area where the water can be released and excluding the livestock during the summer months.
- If you have a near by small stream, it is not a good idea to pipe the outlet to the stream. When your water combines with the water from hundreds of other roof systems there can be negative impacts, such as localized flooding, high energy erosion, high energy washing out of salmon nests, or overtopping of roadways.
- You should always check with your local agencies on rules and regulations involving water. Or if you have any questions, give us a call at Skagit Conservation District. www.skagitcd.org



TABLE C.2.1.A SUMMARY OF DISPERSION DEVICE FLOWPATH LENGTHS & CAPACITIES

Full Dispersion Device	Native Vegetated Flowpath Length	Maximum Impervious Surface Amount	Maximum Non-Native Pervious Surface Amount	
			Non-Pasture	Pasture
Splash Block	100 feet	700 sq ft	NA	NA
	200 feet	1,400 sq ft	NA	NA
Rock Pad	100 feet	700 sq ft	2,500 sq ft	8,000 sq ft
	200 feet	1,400 sq ft	5,000 sq ft	16,000 sq ft
10-foot Gravel Trench	100 feet	1,400 sq ft	5,000 sq ft	16,000 sq ft
	200 feet	2,800 sq ft	10,000 sq ft	32,000 sq ft
50-foot Gravel Trench	100 feet	5,000 sq ft	17,500 sq ft	54,450 sq ft
	200 feet	10,000 sq ft	35,000 sq ft	108,900 sq ft
Sheet Flow from Impervious Surface	100 feet*	25-ft strip width	NA	NA
	200 feet*	50-ft strip width	NA	NA
Sheet Flow from Non-Native Pervious Surface	25 feet	NA	25 feet of width in direction of flow	
	50 feet	NA	100 feet of width in direction of flow	
	75 feet	NA	175 feet of width in direction of flow	
	100 feet	NA	250 feet of width in direction of flow	

* Reducible to 10 feet for each 20 feet of strip width when dispersing over outwash soils outside the UGA.



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Legume ID:

Alslike Clover

Alfalfa

Birdsfoot Trefoil

Red Clover



Thank you

Questions?

Skagit Conservation District

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