Fencing Recommendations

The following are recommendations for building a fence adequate to prevent ingress and egress of cervids.

Fence

The fence must be at least 8 feet high for its entire length. Fences may be constructed using 12 ½ gauge woven wire, 14 ½ gauge high tensile woven wire, wood planks, chain link, or other comparable material. Barbed wire may be used above the woven wire to bring the total fence height to 8 feet, but the strand directly above the fence should be no more than 5 inches from the top of the fence. If a double strand of barbed wire is used to bring the total fence height to 8 feet, the two strands should be no more than 6 inches apart. Two woven wire fences may be combined, one above the other, but the woven wire fences should be overlapped at least 6 inches and firmly attached to each other at intervals no greater than 3 feet. If unusual topography exists (bumps, dips, creek beds, washouts, etc.) such that cervids would be able to pass through, under, or over the fence, the fence should be supplemented in those areas to prevent escape. The fence should remain clear of all dead trees on the property that may fall. If a tree or other object falls on the fence, it should be repaired as soon upon discovery as safely possible.

Posts

All posts should be at least 8 feet above ground and set at least 3 feet deep. Wooden posts should be treated to prevent rotting (they can be purchased treated). Wooden line posts should be at least 4 inches in diameter and set up to 24 feet apart. Wooden corner and end posts should be at least 5 inches in diameter. If steel pipe posts are used, the outside diameter should be at least 2 3/8 inches and the posts should be at least 3 pounds per foot. Like wooden line posts, steel pipe posts should be set no more than 24 feet apart. If metal "T" posts are used, they should be no more than 20 feet apart and at least 1.25 pounds per foot. If metal "T" posts are used and the woven wire is *not* high tensile, wooden or steel pipe posts should be set every 60 feet to strengthen the fence.

Gates

Gates should meet the specifications of the fence. Each gate should have at least one latching and one locking device. Swinging water gaps and stream crossings should meet the standards of the fence. Stream crossings should be adequate to prevent ingress and egress during high water.