

Project Description - This project aimed to improve water quality and farm sustainability by constructing roofed barnyards on the Rine and Pfleegor farms and implementing pasture management systems across Montour County. The barnyards provide stabilized, covered feeding areas to collect and store manure, preventing nutrient runoff and sedimentation into nearby waterways.

Additional pasture management components included streambank fencing, rotational grazing systems, walkways, watering systems, and cropland conversion to pasture, reducing animal concentration areas (ACAs) and protecting streams.

Project Timeframe – December 31, 2020 through December 31, 2024

Pictures –

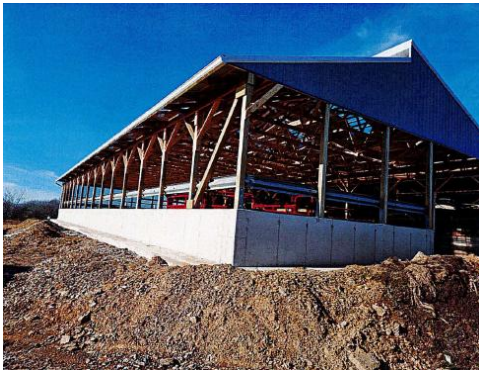


Figure 2: Rine Farm completed heavy use area



Figure 1: Pfleegor Farm heavy use area construction

Project Results

Rine Barnyard:

Constructed a roof over a 5,000 sq. ft. concrete lot to prevent nutrient-rich runoff from entering Chillisquaque Creek. Improvements prevent approximately 7,140 lbs. of nitrogen and 2,550 lbs. of phosphorus from reaching waterways annually.

Pfleegor Barnyard:

Built a 2,552 sq. ft. roofed concrete feeding area and 1,408 sq. ft. manure storage for 10 cow/calf pairs and 10 finishers. Prevents 4,213 lbs. of nitrogen and 2,681 lbs. of phosphorus from entering Limestone Run each year.

Pasture Management:

Installed over 15 miles of fencing, walkways, and watering systems to promote rotational grazing and reduce ACAs. Significantly improved vegetative cover on pastures and limited livestock access to streams. Sparked ongoing local interest in similar conservation projects.

Project Costs - \$918,716.00 Growing Greener plus \$182,981.34 in matching funds