

Project Description - The Murray project is a 40-cattle beef operation located on 8th Street in Franklin Township. Prior to the grant implementation, animals were turned out daily into an area that lacked adequate vegetation. The area was more of an exercise lot for the animals as it was often muddy and lacked vegetation. The area where the cows were turned out had a lot of water from streams, tile outlets, and springs draining. The cows would water primarily from these water sources and over time they became silt-filled and extensively degraded. The cows were fed in an earthen barnyard each day because the vegetation available did not support the cattle. The previously existing earthen barnyard was laid deep with mud and manure and offered no water directives to eliminate upslope water. The BMPs installed will mitigate soil and nutrient loss through constructed BMPs and management.

Project Timeframe – October 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025

Pictures -



Feeding area prior to BMP implementation



Heavy-use area construction

Project Results – Installation of the following practices: Waste storage structure – 3,080 sq. ft., critical area planting – 5,800 sq. ft./13 acres, roofs and covers – 8,362 sq. ft., fence – 536 ft., heavy use area – 4,282 sq. ft., trails and walkways – 390 ft., well decommissioning – 247 ft., subsurface drain – 497 ft. resulting in nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment load reductions of 410.81 lbs./yr., 24.19 lbs./yr., 0.49878 tons/year, respectively.

Project Costs - \$435,000.00 EPA Section 319(h)