

MADISON COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT HOSTS FENCING FIELD DAY

“Good fences make good neighbors” the poet Robert Frost once wrote. They also protect farm water supplies and produce healthier, more profitable cattle.

The field day was an opportunity for farmers to see the latest techniques in high tensile electric fencing. Jeremy McGill of Gallagher Power Fence Systems explained proper installation and grounding of electric fences. Local landowners had the opportunity to learn by “hands on experience” techniques for electrical fencing. McGill stated that proper grounding and chargers are very important components of high tensile electric fences. He noted ground rods should be made of the same metal as fence wire.



Also emphasized was improved water quality for livestock and recreation use. This farm adjoins Wilgreen Lake and cattle were able to access the water. Wilgreen is owned by the county and is a major recreation area. Madison County Fiscal Court has commissioned a study of Wilgreen Lake by Dr. Walter Borowski, Environmental Science professor at Eastern Ky. University. Borowski and his students are taking and analyzing water samples to determine levels of pollution and their likely sources. In coordination with the study the Madison County Conservation District (CD) “is developing best management practices to deal with environmental concerns” according to Dave Gerrein, chairman. Also cooperating to promote the health and prolong the life of Wilgreen Lake, Madison County Judge Executive, Kent Clark, noted the county government is sharing the cost of fencing off farmland that borders the lake.

The fencing demonstration coordinated by the CD is a cooperative effort with local landowner, county government, local Gallagher dealer (Montgomery Farm Supply) and the KY Division of Conservation providing a water quality grant.