



Animal Heavy Use Areas like these need Best Management Practices (BMPs).

ANIMAL CONCENTRATION & SACRIFICE AREAS

Animal Concentration Areas (ACA's)

Animal Concentration Areas (ACAs) are areas on any agricultural operations, including equine, where due to the concentration and frequency of animal traffic, it is not possible to establish or maintain vegetative cover dense and tall enough to minimize erosion and sedimentation. In other words, bare, non-vegetated areas, often known as barnyards, feed areas, and exercise lots are ACAs, and need to be addressed.

If your equine operation has an ACA, it must be managed to:

- Divert clean water away from the ACA.
- Collect and/or filter dirty water flowing from ACA.
- Limit animal access to streams.
- Minimize the size of the ACA.
- Move feeding and watering areas away from streams.
- Routinely remove manure.

ACAs also must be noted, and management plans outlined, in a Manure Management Plan, and an Agricultural Erosion and Sediment (E&S) control plan for your equine operation. For more details on Manure Management Plans, Ag E&S plans, or ACAs, please contact your local County Conservation District.



All farms with crops or ACAs must also have an Agricultural Erosion and Sediment Control Plan meeting the requirements of DEP Chapter 102 to prevent gullies.

Create A Small “Sacrifice Area”



- Remaining pasture is used sparingly for grazing or exercise during winter.
- It is cheaper to establish a small sacrifice lot in comparison to the cost of reseeding large areas of bare pasture.
- Sacrifice lots should not be in areas of concentrated water flow.
- Locate sacrifice areas away from wells and other bodies of water.
- Manure in sacrifice area needs to be removed on annual basis.



The sacrifice area above needs better management. At no cost, your local county conservation district can offer help in creating an area safer for your stock and the environment.

This unsightly mud lot is an unhealthy horse environment. Runoff entering a stream from this mud lot would discharge pollutants to the stream and would be a violation of PA's Clean Streams Law and may result in penalties.