

## EXAMPLES OF ENERGIZERS AND FENCING COMPONENTS



## MATERIALS WORKSHEET

### FENCING

- Poultry Net Fence \$111-\$209
- Fence Conductor \$18-\$72

### ENERGIZERS

- Solar \$170-\$369
- Battery \$89-\$249
- 110 Volt \$95-\$250

### POSTS

- Tread-ins \$3.50 each

### ACCESSORIES

- Voltage Tester \$21-\$110
- Insulators \$.35-\$.49
- Ground Rod \$6-\$12
- Ground Rod Clamp \$3
- Warning Signs \$5

*The products and price ranges provided in this brochure are intended for reference only. The N.H. Fish and Game Department or USDA Wildlife Services do not endorse or guarantee the use of these products over others not mentioned. Contact your local fence dealer for specific pricing and additional options.*

**For more information, please contact  
New Hampshire Fish and Game at 603-271-2461 or  
USDA Wildlife Services at 603-223-6832**



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

# RAISING POULTRY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

## PREVENTING LOSS BY BEARS





## KEEPING BEARS OUT REQUIRES A DIFFERENT APPROACH

The popularity of raising backyard chickens and waterfowl has grown significantly in recent years, as people became interested in providing their own meat and fresh eggs. If poultry is not adequately contained and protected, loss to wildlife should be expected. Animals such as black bears now recognize chickens, ducks, and the associated poultry feed as an easily accessible food source. Many of the state's wildlife species are paying the price as an increasing number of landowners choose to kill wildlife as a means of defense against predation.

Most coops, pens, and runs are constructed with the intent of keeping poultry in and typically fail at keeping wildlife out. If poultry is not adequately contained and protected, loss to wildlife should be expected.

While it may be possible to build coops strong enough to keep out species such as foxes, raccoons, and bobcats, bears require a different approach because of their strength and agility. **The most effective way to protect poultry from predation by bears is to establish a perimeter of electric fence.** Bears honor electricity, and the use of electric fencing represents the most viable, long-term solution for protecting your investment from predatory loss.

## EFFECTIVE ELECTRIC FENCE OPTIONS

*Electric fencing represents a modest investment that will provide years of service protecting poultry from bears.*



*A component fence system can be used around existing buildings and poultry runs. Constructed with tread-in posts or nail-on screw-in insulators, it includes four strands of electrified conductor at 8"-10" intervals for bears. Bottom strands can be 4"-6" for smaller predators.*



*Those who frequently move poultry to other grazing sites will appreciate the convenience of poultry net fences. These fences are portable, provide protection from a variety of predators, and can be used to contain chickens. Fences come in a variety of lengths and consist of a grid of conductive wires and plastic posts.*

## RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR PROTECTING POULTRY

- Utilize electric fence around poultry coops, pens, and runs.
- Keep the electric fence in good condition to ensure it is working properly.
- Maintain open space around coops and pens – bears tend to avoid areas without cover.
- Store poultry feed securely, indoors or in air-tight, odor-free, bear-proof containers.
- Feed poultry only the amount that can be consumed during a typical feeding – don't let feed accumulate in a coop or pen.
- The use of livestock guardian animals, such as dogs, can be highly effective in deterring predatory wildlife.
- Prevent vegetation from growing into contact with fence.
- Bait electric fence as a rapid way to teach bears the effectiveness of the fence.



*This well-designed chicken coop effectively protects the homeowner's investment, as well as New Hampshire's black bears.*

**PROTECT YOUR POULTRY INVESTMENT - GO ELECTRIC!**