

# Using the “Virginia Livestock Watering Systems” Worksheet

## Designing Pressurized Livestock Watering Systems

Prince George Training

January 31, 2017

Raleigh Coleman, DCR

# Virginia LWS Worksheet

- Can be used to design...
  - Pressure Systems
  - Public Water Connection Systems
  - Gravity Systems
- Select appropriate tab in Excel file
- VA NRCS Design Note 614 (DN-614) provides comprehensive guidance as well as 8 examples

Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View

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Format as Table Cell Styles

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## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

**1) Assistance Information**

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Page  
Clear Data

**2) Water Budget**

**a) Total Daily Water Demand**  
 Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
**Total Daily Demand:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

**b) Daily Peak Water Demand**  
 Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

**c) Evaluate Source**  
**Source flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If **source flow rate** is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If **source daily yield** is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

**3) Design Parameters**

**a) Trough Information**  
 Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**Design flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.  
 Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

**b) Pipe Information**  
 Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): \_\_\_\_\_ fps  
 If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.  
 Pipe length to farthest watering point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.  
 Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA CPS 516): \_\_\_\_\_ psi Compare with result in Step 5b.

**c) Vertical Pumping Distance**  
 High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

**4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design**

**a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:**  
 Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet

**b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:**  
 Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

**d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:**  
 Design pumping rate of: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm ×  
 Minimum pumping time of: \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 This is the minimum draw down volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

Select Appropriate Tab

**5) Static Pressure Checks**

**a) Static pressure at pressure switch:**  
 Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

**b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:**  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# Pressure System Design

# Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

## 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

## 2) Water Budget

### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
**Total Daily Demand:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

### c) Evaluate Source

**Source flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

## 3) Design Parameters

### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**Design flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): \_\_\_\_\_ fps  
 If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to farthest watering point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA CPS 515): \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Compare with result in Step 5b.

### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

## 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet

### d) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

## 5) Static Pressure Checks

### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

Elevation of highest point:	_____ ft
Elevation of pressure switch:	_____ ft
Low pressure switch setting =	_____ psi
Static pressure on switch =	_____ psi

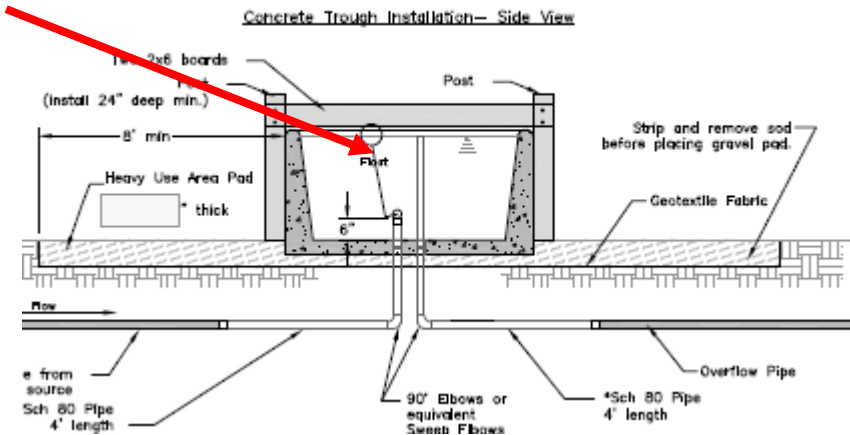
### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

Elevation of pressure switch:	_____ feet
Elevation of lowest trough:	_____ feet
Difference:	_____ feet OR _____ psi
Add high pressure switch setting:	_____ psi
Total pressure at lowest trough:	_____ psi

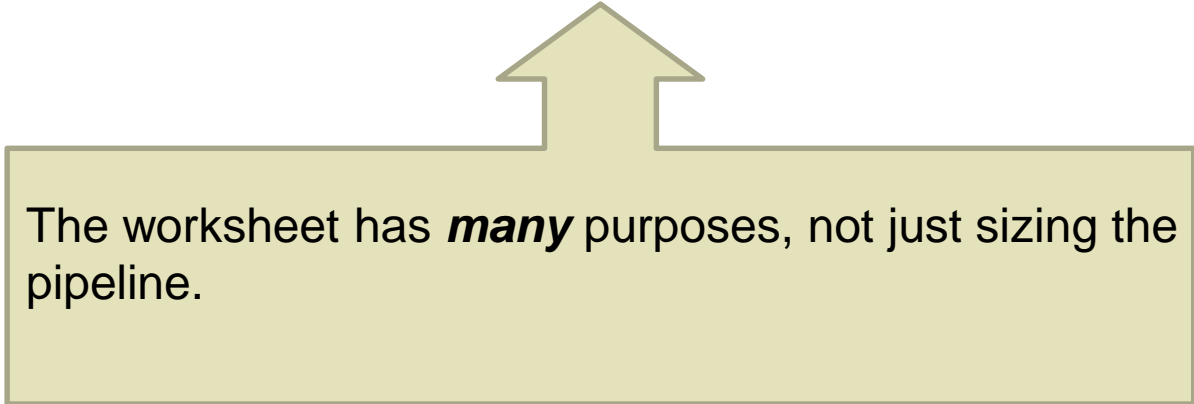
# What is a “Pressure System”?

- Water supplied via a *pumping plant*
  - Pump: moves water through the system
  - Pressure Tank: maintains pressure when the pump is not running
  - Pump Switch: tells the pump when to run
- Troughs on Float Valves to contain pressure (and water)



# What is the purpose of the worksheet?

TRUE or FALSE: The purpose of the “Pressure System Worksheet” is to size the pipeline.



The worksheet has *many* purposes, not just sizing the pipeline.

# What is the purpose of the worksheet?

- Evaluate the “Water Budget”: Is the water source adequate?
- Determine an appropriate *design flow rate* (pumping rate)
- Determine appropriate minimum pipeline diameter(s)
- Determine the energy requirements for the system
  - Size the pump
  - Determine the pressure switch settings
- Determine a minimum volume for the pressure tank
- Check for excessive static pressure at the pressure switch and at the trough float valves (*and in the pipeline*)
- Indirectly: Determine if components may need to be positioned differently on the landscape (or if an alternative system should be used) if energy requirements are excessive



# Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

## 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

## 2) Water Budget

### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
**Total Daily Demand:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_  
 See Design Note for considerations for peak demand.

## 3) Design Parameters

### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**Design flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): \_\_\_\_\_  
 If velocity is greater than 5 fps, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe length to furthest watering: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_

Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_  
 72% of rating (See VA OPS 516)

## 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet

### b) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

**Energy Requirements for the System =**  
 Elevation Head (+ or -)  
 +  
 Friction Loss  
 +  
 Minimum Float Valve Pressure  
 +  
 "Other:" (other analyses for elevation and friction loss)

**This total energy requirement will determine the pressure switch settings (energy requirement = low switch setting).**

Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

A larger volume can be used.

## 5) Static Pressure Checks

### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

Elevation of highest point:	_____ ft
Elevation of pressure switch:	_____ ft
Low pressure switch setting =	_____ psi
Static pressure on switch =	_____ psi

### b) Check

**The high pressure switch setting will determine the dynamic head added to the pump.**

# Dynamic Head

- Pressure when water is *flowing* in the system
- Depends on the initial pressure (determined by the pressure switch), differences in elevation, and friction loss from the movement of water through the system
- **Importance:** We need to determine how much dynamic head will be needed to make the system work properly (i.e. What is the minimum amount of pressure energy that will allow the system to deliver water to the troughs?).
  - The energy requirements will determine the pressure switch settings and the dynamic head added to the pump.

c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

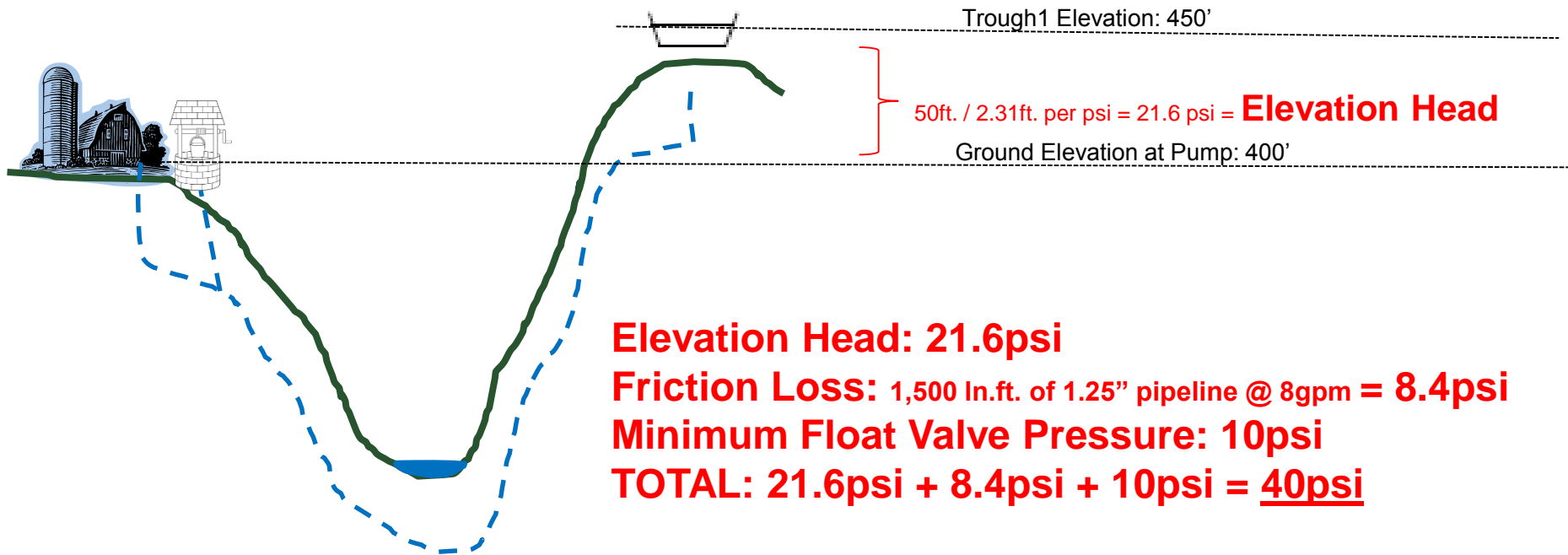
Dynamic head = higher switch setting of  psi x 2.31 =  feet

Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

# Example:

What are the energy requirements to deliver water to Trough 1?

Total Energy Requirement = Elevation Head + Friction Loss + Float Valve Minimum Pressure



# Static Pressure

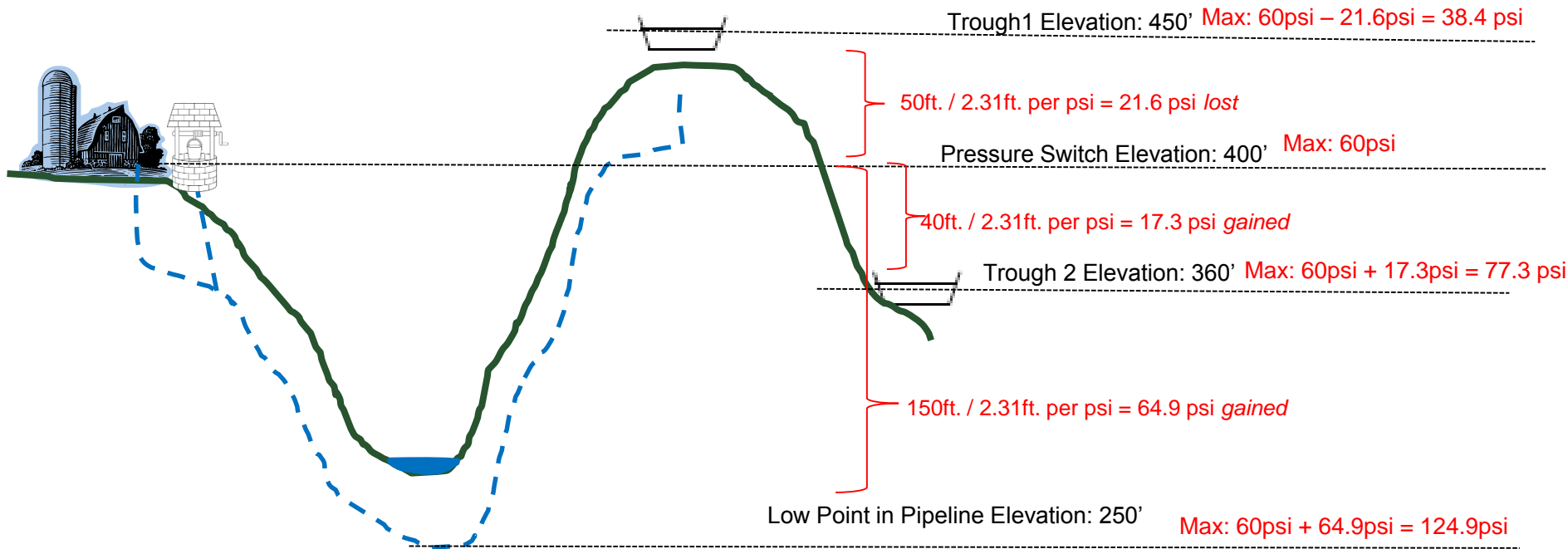
- Pressure when the system is at *rest*
- Friction loss is **not** a factor (water is not moving)
- Pressure will increase or decrease throughout the system based on elevation difference at each point from the pressure switch
- 1psi of pressure is gained for each 2.31 feet of elevation in a column of water
  - NOTE: The width of the column of water does not matter! Only the vertical elevation change affects pressure in the system.
- Importance: We need to check to make sure that static pressure is not *too high* at low points in the system.
  - Float Valves
  - Pipeline

Prevent this from happening:



# Static Pressure Example

This system has a 40/60 pressure switch at elevation 400'. What is the **maximum** static pressure at each point of interest?



# Completing the Pressure System Worksheet

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
**Total Daily Demand:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### e) Evaluate Source

**Source flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**Design flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): \_\_\_\_\_ fps

If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to farthest watering point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. OR  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA OPS 516): \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

#### e) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet

#### e) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the "Lift" Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.



# Project Notes

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer:   
County:   
Date:   
Assisted By:

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock:

Number of Animals:

Water demand/animal/day:  gpd

Total Daily Demand:  gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day:  events

Time desired to water herd:  minutes/event

Average peak demand:  gpm

Alternate peak demand:  gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate:  gpm

Source daily yield:  gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).

If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

a) Trough Information

Trough type(s):

Design flow rate:  gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure:  psi

Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

b) Pipe Information

Pipe material:

Pipe nominal diameter:  in.

Pipe avg. inner diameter:  in.

Pipe cross-sectional area:  sq. ft.

Friction loss/100 ft:  ft./100 ft.

Velocity check (<5 fps):  fps

If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.

c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to":  feet

Ground elev. of high point:  feet

Low point to pump "from":  feet

Ground elev. of low point:  feet

Elevation difference:  feet OR  psi

**Project Notes:** Include a brief description of the project, including any unique aspects (enough for your engineer, coworker, contractor to understand your inputs and your plans for the system).

### Specifically:

- Is this a completely new system, or is it building off of an existing system?
- Will there be more than one analysis? (e.g., multiple pipeline sizes, remote pressure tank, adding to existing system, etc.) If so, describe the purpose of this analysis.
- Is there anything that you would like to highlight for the contractor/landowner? (e.g. which troughs have excessive pressure, notes on well yield, etc.)

# Water Budget

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

a) Total Daily Water Demand  
 Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

b) Daily Peak V  
 Number of times  
 Time desired to  
 Average peak d  
 Alternate peak d  
 See Design Not  
 peak demand.

### 3) Design Parameters

a) Trough Information  
 Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.  
 Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

b) Pipe Informa  
 Pipe material:  
 Pipe nominal di  
 Pipe avg. inter  
 Pipe cross-sect  
 Friction loss/100  
 Velocity check (i  
 if velocity is gre  
 Pipe length to fo  
 Add 10% for slo  
 Total friction los  
 Total friction los  
 Pipe pressure r  
 72% of rating (8

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____

b) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:  
 Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

a) Static pressure at pressure switch/oh: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_  
 If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

## 2) Water Budget:

This will be used to determine how much water the livestock need and compare it to the source to make sure that the water source is adequate and to help determine the pumping rate.

See "Water Quantity Guidelines for Various Livestock" chart on page A-2 in DN-614.

Talk to your producer.

- He/she should be able to provide more accurate water needs if they have filled stock tanks.
- For cow/calf operations, determine the likelihood that they will hold calves (could double the needs).
- Generally better to overestimate water needs (within reason). Thirsty cows will fight with each other for access to troughs, put more pressure on the stream fences, and spend more time in stream crossings.



## Water Quantity Guidelines for Various Livestock

Type of Livestock		Estimated Daily Water Consumption per Animal (gallons per day)	References
Cattle	Beef adult	15	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
		8-12	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	Calf	5	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
		1 to 1.5 gal/100 lb body weight	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	Beef cow/calf pair	20	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
		6-18	National Range and Pasture Handbook (USDA-NRCS, 1997)
	Growing steers/ pregnant heifers	6-18	National Range and Pasture Handbook (USDA-NRCS, 1997)
	Heifer	10-15	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	Milking cow	30	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
		10-30	National Range and Pasture Handbook (USDA-NRCS, 1997)
35-45		Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)	
Dry cow	20	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering	
	20-30	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)	
Swine	Swine	4	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
	Finishing swine	3-5	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	Nursery	1	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	Gestating sow	6	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	Sow and litter	8	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
Other Grazing Mammals	Horse	12	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987); VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
		8-12	National Range and Pasture Handbook (USDA-NRCS, 1997)
	Llama	4	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
	Sheep, Goat	3	VA USDA-NRCS Introduction to Conservation Engineering
		2	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
1-4		National Range and Pasture Handbook (USDA-NRCS, 1997)	
Poultry	100 chicken layers	9	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
	100 turkeys	15	Structures and Environment Handbook (MWPS, 1987)
General	1000 lb live weight (AU)	30	Indiana USDA-NRCS IN-ENG-Pipeline-4-09.xls

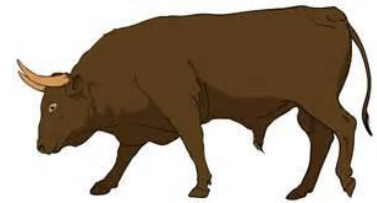
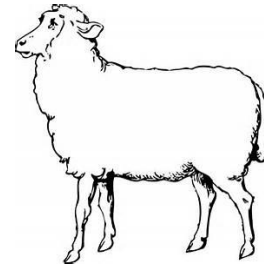
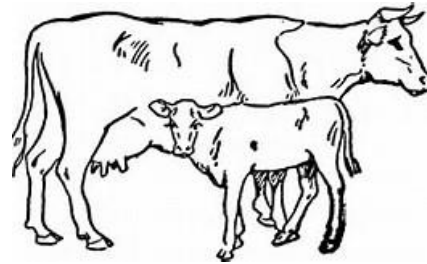
DN-614,  
Page A-2

# Total Daily Water Demand Example

Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

## A producer has:

- 20 cow/calf pairs
- 1 bull
- 12 sheep
- 2 horses



What is the “Total Daily Demand”?

“Pressure System Worksheet” only has room for one animal type. Quick calculations need to be done.

# Total Daily Water Demand Example

Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

We confirm that the producer will absolutely sell his calves every spring. Use “Water Quantity Guidelines for Various Livestock” to determine total demand.

• 20 cow/calf pairs	x 20 gal/day	= 400 gal/day
• 1 bull	x 15 gal/day	= 15 gal/day
• 12 sheep	x 3 gal/day	= 36 gal/day
• 2 horses	x 12 gal/day	= 24 gal/day

What is the “Total Daily Demand”? = 475 gallons/day

But the worksheet only allows you to enter number of animals and demand/animal/day...

475 gallons/day ÷ 35 animals = 13.57 gal/animal/day. → 14 gal/animal/day.  
=490gpd (conservative)

# Enter into worksheet:

## 2) Water Budget

### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock:	ef Cow/Calf Pairs, Bull, Horses, Sheep
Number of Animals:	35
Water demand/animal/day:	14 gpd
<b>Total Daily Demand:</b>	<b>490 gpd</b>

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

# Water Budget

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
**Total Daily Demand:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

**Source flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
**Design flow rate:** \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.  
 Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): \_\_\_\_\_ fps  
 If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.  
 Pipe length to farthest watering point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. OR  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi if friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.  
 Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

## 2) Water Budget:

### b. Daily Peak Water Demand

- This will calculate the livestock's peak demand for water. An "Alternate Peak Demand" can be entered based on the planner's experience.
- The following slides provide info for calculating "Average Peak Demand" and deciding on a possible "Alternate Peak Demand."

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

a) Summary of energy requirements for the pump:  
 Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 o) Dynamic Head added to pump by the pressure tank:  
 Dynamic head = higher switch setting of pressure tank - lower switch setting of pressure tank  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the static pressure of the water source up to the distribution system. The flow rate will be determined by the size of the pump for the project.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

a) Static pressure at pressure switch:  
 If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

c) Minimum drawdown volume required to allow pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. This volume can be used.  
 If pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; the pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at all watering stations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 \_\_\_\_\_ psi

---

**b) Daily Peak Water Demand**

Number of times herd drinks/day

Time desired to water herd:

Average peak demand:

Alternate peak demand:

See Design Note for considerations for  
estimating peak demand.

	events
	minutes/event
	gpm
	gpm

**Number of Times herd drinks/day:**

*This is typically 2 or 3, but for heavily subdivided, small pasture, this number may be as high as 5 or 6. Pasture size and shape factor in heavily.*

## From the *Missouri Livestock Watering Systems Handbook*:

- Distance animals have to travel to get to water affects herd behavior as related to the social event of going to the water hole and the amount of water consumed.
- According to cow psychologists, cattle go to water less frequently and go as a herd or large grazing groups if water is farther than **800 feet** from the pasture.
- If water is closer animals tend to go to water more often and as singles, pairs, or small groups (especially in flat or gently rolling terrain where they can keep sight of their buddies).
- The design delivery rate should be the maximum available or maximum required whichever is less. The tank size should be made bigger for low delivery systems. History has shown that oversized tanks work well with few problems.



## Cattle Watering Behavior Facts

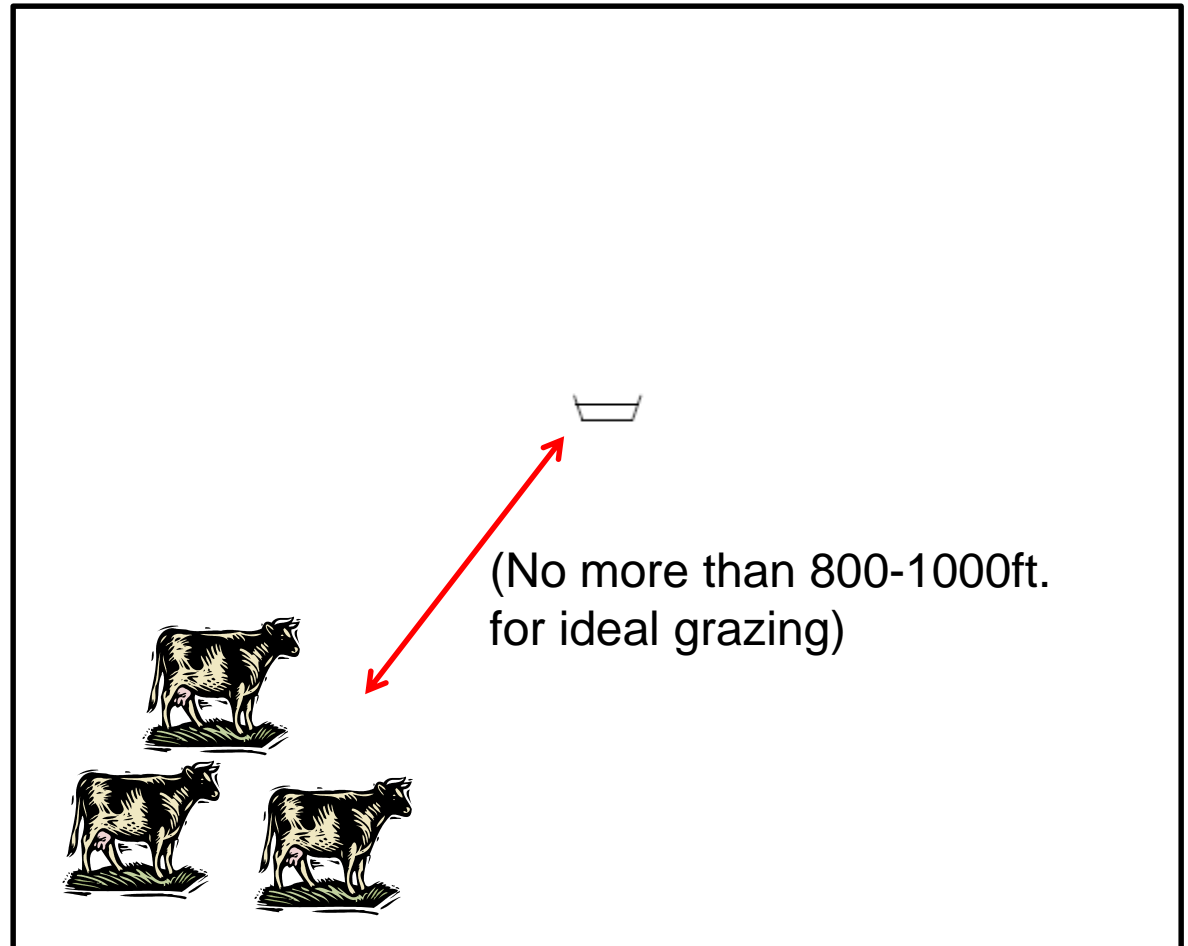
- They drink 1 to 2 gallons per minute
- They drink for 2 to 3 minutes per drinking event
- So they can drink 6 gallons per drinking event per animal on 'high side'
- 2 to 5 drinking events per day - MU

*Slide borrowed from "Solar Powered Water Systems for Grazing Operations" webinar presentation by Kevin Ogles, Grazing Lands Specialist, USDA-NRCS*



# Fewer drinking events may be expected in:

➔ Large pastures (Distance to Troughs)



# Fewer drinking events may be expected in:

Large pastures (Distance to Troughs)

➔ Odd-Shaped Pastures or Non-Centrally Located Troughs



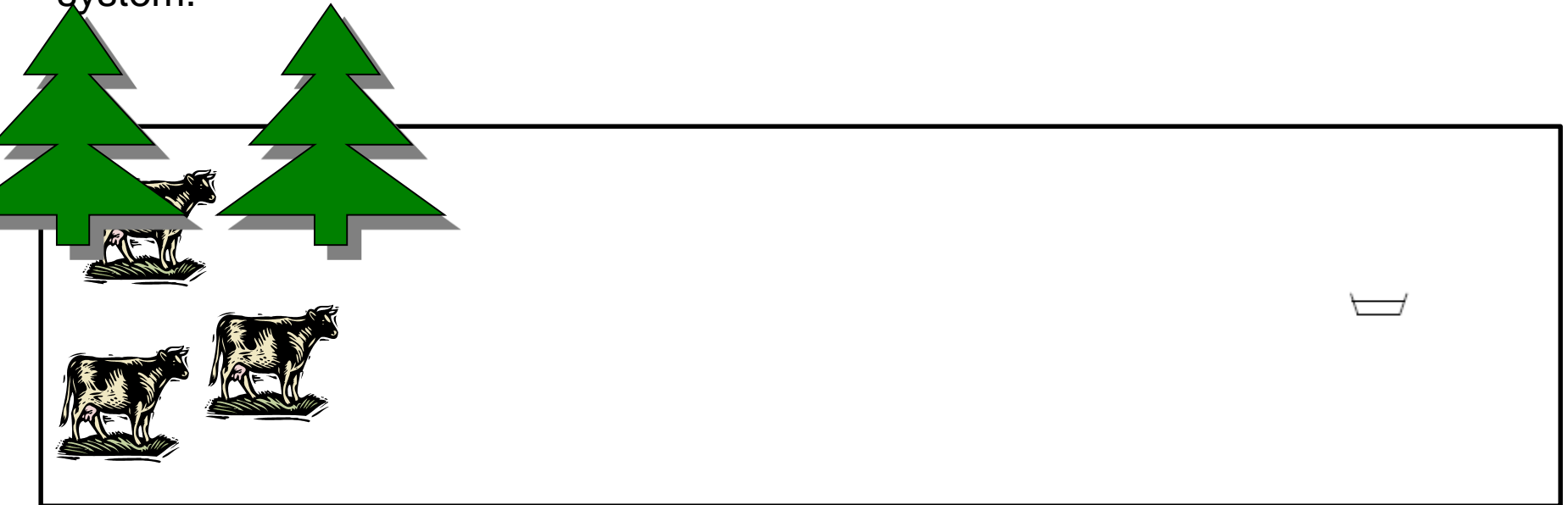
## Fewer drinking events may be expected in:

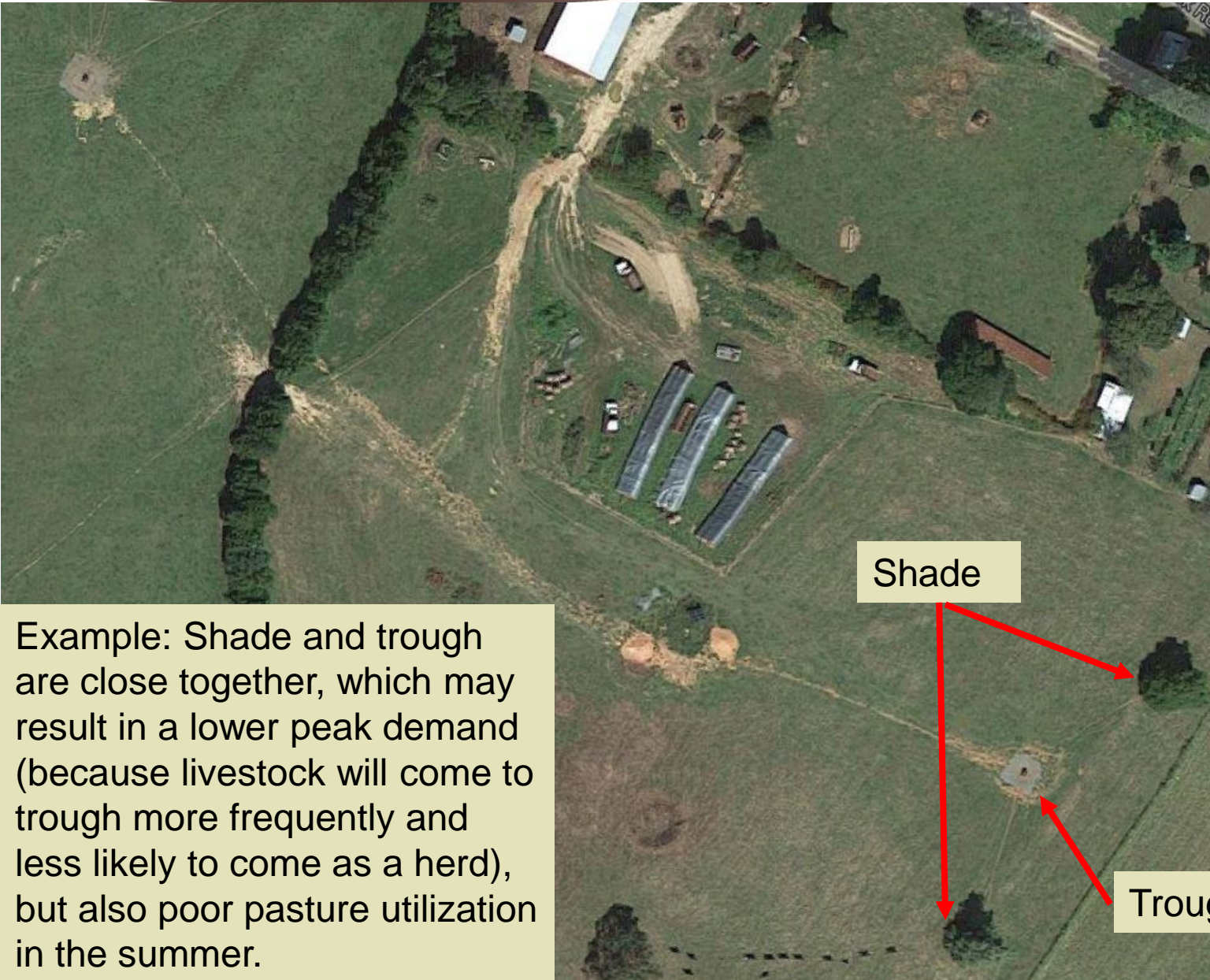
Large pastures (Distance to Troughs)

Odd-Shaped Pastures or Non-Centrally Located Troughs

➔ Pastures where the water source and shade are separated\*\*\*

\*\*\*Note that this is a good conservation planning technique to encourage full utilization of the pasture; it just means that you can expect cattle to need fewer, longer-duration drinking events (thus a higher peak demand) when designing the system.



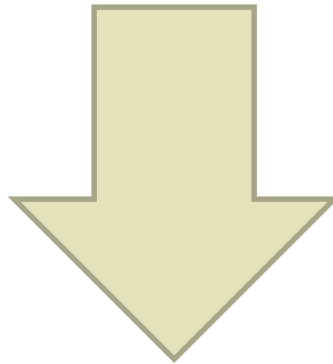


Shade

Trough

Example: Shade and trough are close together, which may result in a lower peak demand (because livestock will come to trough more frequently and less likely to come as a herd), but also poor pasture utilization in the summer.

## Fewer drinking events



- Longer Duration events
- Higher Peak Demand
- More water consumed per event

---

**b) Daily Peak Water Demand**

Number of times herd drinks/day

Time desired to water herd:

Average peak demand:

Alternate peak demand:

See Design Note for considerations for  
estimating peak demand.

	events
	minutes/event
	gpm
	gpm



---

Time desired to water herd:

*Typical values are 30 to 60 minutes but is highly subjective.*

*Time is valuable when cattle cannot graze because they are waiting for water.*

---

**b) Daily Peak Water Demand**

Number of times herd drinks/day

Time desired to water herd:

Average peak demand:

Alternate peak demand:

See Design Note for considerations for  
estimating peak demand.

<input type="text"/>	events
<input type="text"/>	minutes/event
<input type="text"/>	gpm
<input type="text"/>	gpm



---

Alternate peak demand:

This is where the planner can use their field experience to enter a peak demand that they think is reasonable.



## Alternate Peak Demand

- One common “Rule of Thumb” is to design to supply 2 gallons per minute (gpm) per head (for cattle) that can drink at one time  
*(Missouri University Extension, Pumps and Watering Systems for Managed Beef Grazing).*
- **For example:**
  - 6-hole trough: 6 holes x 1 cow per hole x 2gpm per cow = **12gpm**
  - 4-hole trough: 4 holes x 1 cow per hole x 2gpm per cow = **8gpm**
  - 2-hole trough: 2 holes x 1 cow per hole x 2gpm per cow = **4gpm**
- This is based on the premise that one beef cow will only drink 2gpm, so there is no need to deliver more water than 8gpm to a 4-hole trough.



# Alternate Peak Demand

- If you calculate an “Average Peak Demand” of 20gpm but understand that only 8gpm will be consumed from the trough, do not design the system with pumping rate of 20gpm (resulting in a bigger pump, larger pipeline, and more cycling of the pump if cows are really only drinking 8gpm).
- Concerned about the time it will take to water a herd with a 4-hole trough at 8gpm? → Consider a 6-hole trough at 12gpm OR troughs with more storage (concrete or HETT with float valves) if the peak demand (gpm) cannot be met.
  - Do not install a 6-hole trough simply for more “storage” than a 4-hole trough (6-hole troughs typically only store 15-30 more gallons than 4-hole troughs)





Okay girls, we need to drink a little slower – this drinking event is supposed to last one hour.





# Recommended Approach:

---

## b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day

Time desired to water herd:

Average peak demand:

Alternate peak demand:

See Design Note for considerations for  
estimating peak demand.

	events
	minutes/event
	gpm
	gpm

- Calculate an “Average Peak Demand” using 30-60 minutes per event and 3 events.
- Compare this result to the “Alternate Peak Demand” using the “2gpm-per-hole” approach
- If the “Average Peak Demand”  $\gg$  “Alternate Peak Demand,” then:
  - Work backwards to determine how long it will take to water the herd at the “Alternate Peak Demand”
  - If the Alternate Peak Demand is too low, upgrade to a trough with more holes or a storage trough
- If the “Average Peak Demand”  $\ll$  “Alternate Peak Demand,” then:
  - Use the “Alternate Peak Demand” as the “Design Flow Rate”
  - Consider a trough with fewer holes as the “least cost, technically feasible alternative”
- If the “Average Peak Demand”  $\approx$  “Alternate Peak Demand, then: GREAT!
- **In this way, the “Average Peak Demand” can be thought of as more of a planning tool and will rarely be used as the actual pumping rate.**

# Summary: Alternate Peak Demand

- 8gpm for 4-hole troughs
- 4gpm for 2-hole troughs
- 12gpm for 6-hole troughs
- 5gpm for concrete or HET troughs
- Compare to “Average peak demand” to determine if trough size is appropriate

# In case you forget...

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design

Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft. / 100 ft. / sq. ft.

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank

#### a) Summary of energy requirements to

Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
**TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet

high pressure-rated tank.

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# A Related Aside...

- Manufacturer's recommendations for the number of cattle served by frost-free troughs may be higher than reality in pastures
  - Manufacturers' numbers appear to be based on feed lot/loafing lot scenarios (not pasture) where cattle do not come to drink as a herd

Manufacturer's Recommendations for # Beef Cattle Served by Troughs:

Trough Size	Ritchie	MiraFount
1-hole	30 (CT1-2000)	70 (#3345)
2-hole	100 (CT2-2000)	150 (#3390)
4-hole	200 (CT4-2000)	200 (#3354-S)
6-hole	300 (CT6)	250 (#3370-S)

For example, if a 2-hole trough is installed to serve 100 cows, the last cows in line would have to wait through 49 other pairs of cows to drink. Each drinking event could take several hours.

# Trough Size Selection Example

## 2) Water Budget

### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock:	Cow/Calf Pairs
Number of Animals:	120
Water demand/animal/day:	20 gpd
<b>Total Daily Demand:</b>	<b>2400 gpd</b>

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day	3 events
Time desired to water herd:	60 minutes/event
Average peak demand:	13.3 gpm
Alternate peak demand:	8 gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

- This is a large herd of 120 cow/calf pairs.
- If we plan for a 4-hole trough at 8gpm with 3 drinking events, how long will it take to water the herd?
  - $2400\text{gpd}/3 \text{ events} = 800\text{gallons per event}$
  - $800\text{gallons}/8\text{gpm} = 100 \text{ minutes} \rightarrow$  This is a long time!
- What if we planned to upgrade to a 6-hole trough with an “Alternate Peak Demand”/”Design Flow Rate” of 12gpm
  - $800\text{gallons}/12\text{gpm} = 67 \text{ minutes} \rightarrow$  This is reasonable.

# Water Budget

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

## 2) Water Budget:

### c. Evaluate Source

- This will check to make sure that the source produces enough water in a 24-hour period to meet the “Total Daily Water Demand” of the livestock.
- “If daily yield is less than daily demand, then an alternative or a supplemental source of water will need to be used or the number of animals served will need to be reduced.”**
  - A reservoir may help meet peak demand in some cases, but if the source doesn’t produce enough for the daily demand, the system will run dry
- If the well is used for other purposes aside from the watering system, be sure to account for this – especially when it comes to dairies!

#### d) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump “to”: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump “from”: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If pressure is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

with result in Step 5b.

#### Minimum System Load:

Minimum: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 Maximum: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a minimum drawdown of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or

#### Pressure Tank:

Volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 \_\_\_\_\_ minute =

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

#### Trough:

Pressure at \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

filled and then emptied.

Total pressure at lowest trough:



# Design Parameters

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

a) Total Daily Water Demand  
 Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times \_\_\_\_\_  
 Time desired to \_\_\_\_\_  
 Average peak demand \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alternate peak demand \_\_\_\_\_  
 See Design Note for peak demand.

c) Evaluate Source

**Trough type:** Enter a brief description  
 e.g.: "4-hole frost-free"  
 "HETT on float valve"  
 "Concrete trough on float valve"

### 3) Design Parameters

a) Trough Information  
 Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Select flow rate to troughs as guided by step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.  
 Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Friction loss/100' \_\_\_\_\_  
 Velocity check (if velocity is greater than 5 ft/sec): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe length to trough: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Add 10% for slope: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_  
 72% of rating (80% for cast iron): \_\_\_\_\_

**Design Flow Rate:** Select "Average Peak Demand," "Alternate Peak Demand," or "Source Flow Rate"

**Design Flow Rate = Design Pumping Rate**

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____

c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:  
 Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load

Compare the selected "Design Flow Rate" to "Source Flow Rate". If the "Design Flow Rate" exceeds the "Source Flow Rate", you risk pumping the source dry. Use "Source Flow Rate" for Design Flow Rate in that case, OR:

- consider storage alternatives (reservoirs)
- calculate storage in the well to see if it would be pumped dry in a drinking event.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point:	_____
Elevation of pressure switch:	_____
Low pressure switch setting =	_____
Static pressure on switch =	_____ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

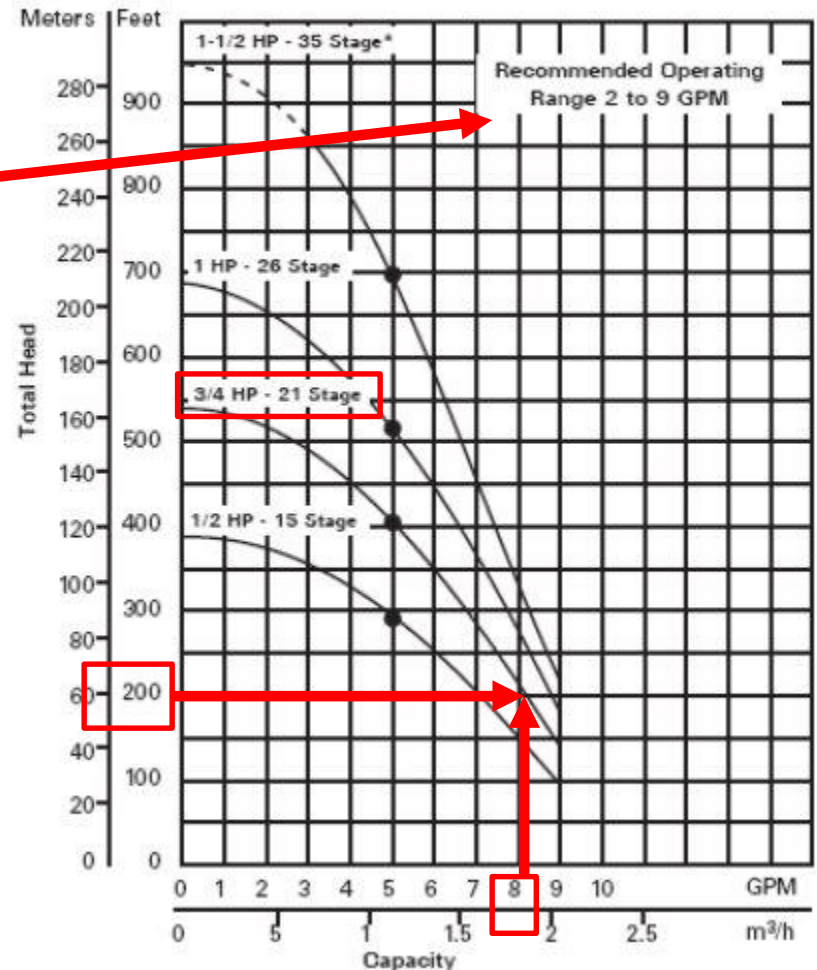
## Design Flow Rate – Feasible?

- Don't fall into "trap" of contractors saying pumps only come in 5gpm, 10gpm, etc. so you can't plan for pumping rates of 8gpm, 12gpm, etc.
- A pump's advertised flow rate is only the average of its advertised pumping range!

# Example Pump Curve

5 GPM • 1/2-1 1/2 HP

- These 5gpm pumps of varying horsepower operate at pumping rates of 2gpm – 9gpm depending on the total head on the pump.
- Example: The pump for our system will have a “Total Head” of 200ft. Will any of these 5gpm pumps pump at 8gpm?
  - YES: the ¾ HP pump will work



NOTE: This is beyond the scope of our engineering responsibilities. We rely on the plumber to size & select the pumps.

## Multiple size troughs in system?

- Decide on one design flow rate (there will only be one pump for the system)

# Design Parameters

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

**Maximum float valve pressure:** depends on trough manufacturer (see following slide).

- Recommended Approach:** Use max. pressure for standard valve; if this pressure is exceeded in Static pressure checks (Section 5.b.), then specify that a high pressure valve (if available) or Pressure Reducing Valve must be used.

d) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate:  gpm

Source daily yield:  gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).

If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

e) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to":  feet

Ground elev. of high point:  feet

Low point to pump "from":  feet

Ground elev. of low point:  feet

Elevation difference:  feet OR  psi

Note: Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure:  psi

Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure:  psi

Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

Pipe cross-sectional area:  sq. ft.

Friction loss/100 ft:  ft./100 ft.

Velocity check (<5 fps):  fps

If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to farthest watering point:  feet

Add 10% for slope and fittings:  feet

Total friction loss:  ft. OR  psi

Total friction loss:  psi

If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe pressure rating:  psi

72% of rating (See VA CPS 515):  psi

Compare with result in Step 5b.

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:  psi OR  feet

Friction loss:  psi OR  feet

Minimum float valve pressure:  psi OR  feet

b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting:  psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)

High pressure switch setting:  psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)

If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or

**Minimum float valve pressure: Typically use 10psi**

Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

Minimum pumping time or  gpm x  minute =

Minimum pressure tank volume of  gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point:  ft

Elevation of pressure switch:  ft

Low pressure switch setting =  psi

Static pressure on switch =  psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch:  feet

Elevation of lowest trough:  feet

Difference:  feet OR  psi

Add high pressure switch setting:  psi

Total pressure at lowest trough:  psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# Common Float Valve Pressure Ranges

## Ritchie 3/4" Valve Series

Ritchie 3/4" valves come in four pressure ratings:



- White - 33 GPM, Low (5-40 psi)
- Red - 20 GPM, Moderate (40-60 psi)
- Green - 16.5 GPM, High (60-80 psi) ★
- Blue - 5 GPM, Very High (80-100 psi)



*"Originators of insulated poly waterers"*

Part No	GPM	Pressure
#336	14	Low 5 – 40 psi
#521	12.5	High 40 – 80 psi ★
#519	6	High 80 – 90 psi

★ = Typically included as the Standard Valve (Check with Supplier)

Notice that the highest pressure valves reduce the flow rate to below 8gpm. In high pressure situations, you may consider recommending a Pressure Reducing Valve instead of a high-pressure float valve so that the flow rate is not sacrificed.



# Design Parameters

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

The Pipe Information section of the worksheet will be used to:

- Determine the minimum diameter of the pipeline
- Determine the **friction loss** created in the pipeline, which will influence the energy requirements (and therefore the pressure switch settings and pump requirements)

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____	psi	OR	_____	feet
Friction loss:	_____	psi	OR	_____	feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____	psi	OR	_____	feet
Other:	_____	psi	OR	_____	feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____	psi	OR	_____	feet

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the "Lift" Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ 1/minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.



# Design Parameters

**Pipe Material:** Most pressure systems will be installed with plastic (PE or PVC) pipeline to minimize cost.

- If you know plastic will be installed but unsure whether it will be PE or PVC, **select PVC** for calculations because it has a smaller actual inside diameter for each nominal diameter and will give conservative friction loss calculations.

Water demand/animal by: Total Daily Demand: <input type="text"/> gpd See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.	Average peak demand: <input type="text"/> gpm Alternate peak demand: <input type="text"/> gpm See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.	If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).
<b>3) Design Parameters</b>		
<b>a) Trough Information</b> Trough type(s): <input type="text"/> Design flow rate: <input type="text"/> gpm Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs. Maximum float valve pressure: <input type="text"/> psi Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.	<b>b) Pipe Information</b> Pipe material: <input type="text"/> Pipe nominal diameter: <input type="text"/> Pipe avg. inner diameter: <input type="text"/> in. Pipe cross-sectional area: <input type="text"/> sq. ft. Friction loss/100 ft: <input type="text"/> ft./100 ft. Velocity check (<5 fps): <input type="text"/> fps If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.	
Minimum float valve pressure: <input type="text"/> psi Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical values 10 psi.	Pipe length to farthest watering point: <input type="text"/> feet Add 10% for slope and fittings: <input type="text"/> feet Total friction loss: <input type="text"/> psi Total friction loss: <input type="text"/> psi If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.	
	Pipe pressure rating: <input type="text"/> psi Compare with result in Step 5b.	

**Pipe nominal diameter:** Raise the pipeline diameter until the **“Total Friction Loss”** is below 10psi  
\*\*This is a GOAL and not necessarily a REQUIREMENT

**Pipe pressure rating:**  
See following slide

**Pipe length to farthest watering point:** Measure how far the water will need to travel through the pipeline to the farthest watering location using a total station survey, GIS, or a measuring wheel

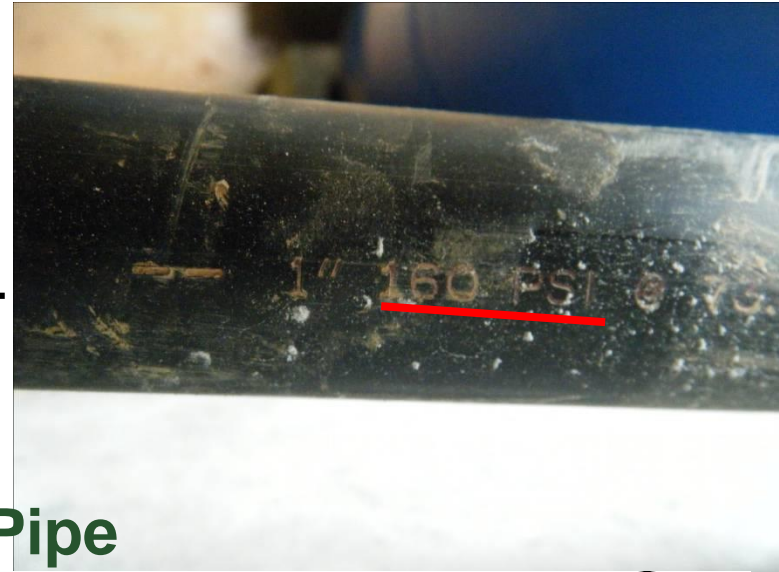
**NOTE:** If “tee”-ing off of an existing pipeline, be sure to also calculate the friction loss in the existing pipeline. We need to calculate the total friction loss from the pumping location to the destination.

# Pipe pressure rating: See DN-614-B-2

## Polyethylene (PE) Plastic Pipe

- 250 psi
- 200 psi
- 160 psi
- 125 psi
- 100 psi
- 80 psi

Most commonly  
used: 160psi+



## Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Plastic Pipe

Water pressure ratings for Schedule 40 PVC Pipe (PVC1120, PVC1220, PVC2120) are:

Nominal Diameter	Pressure Rating at 73° F
1"	450 psi
1-1/4"	370 psi
1-1/2"	330 psi
2"	280 psi

\*\*\*If unsure whether PE or PVC will be used, use the PE pressure rating value to be conservative

# Pipeline Sizes

- All pipeline does not have to be the same size in a system!
- Design the “least cost, technically feasible” alternative
  - Keep the potential for future expansion in mind. If the producer has committed to address farther fields at a later time, go ahead and plan for this.
- Analyze total friction loss to trough(s) – if using two different pipeline sizes, calculate friction loss in both runs and add together.
- Use the run with highest friction loss on the final worksheet that you size the pump with
  - Might *not* be the longest run (if one run has smaller pipe)!

# Pipeline Size: Future Expansion?

# Design Parameters

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).

If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

The Vertical Pumping Distance section of the worksheet will be used to:

-Determine the **elevation head** that the pump will need to overcome

recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi. If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.  
 Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA OPS 515): \_\_\_\_\_ psi. Compare with result in Step 5b.

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# Design Parameters

**High point to pump “to”:** enter brief description of the high point in the system  
e.g. “Trough 3” or “High point in line between well and Trough 3”

**Ground elev. of high point:** enter elevation of high point as determined by accurate methods (USGS topo NOT accurate)

- High Point is not always a trough location; can be in the middle of a run of pipeline

**Low point to pump “from”:** ground elevation at the pump location (NOT the low point in the system; we are only concerned with the actual low point in the system later in the worksheet during static pressure checks).  
e.g. “Well”

(Keep in mind that the end result of the worksheet will be the “Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system.” We are trying to figure out the *additional* requirements (determined by the pressure switch settings) that the pump will need to overcome once it has already brought the water to the ground elevation at the source.)

## Pressure System Worksheet

1) Evaluate Source  
Source flow rate:  gpm  
Source daily yield:  gpd  
If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

2) Vertical Pumping Distance  
High point to pump “to”:  feet  
Ground elev. of high point:  feet  
Low point to pump “from”:  feet  
Ground elev. of low point:  feet  
Elevation difference:  feet OR  psi

If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Compare with result in Step 5b.

3) Based on System Load:  
Pressure switch setting:  psi (Minimum is 20 psi)  
Pressure switch setting:   
Pressure switch setting of 80 psi and tank.

4) Allowance for Pressure  
Rate of flow:   
Time of day:   
Tank volume of

5) Lowest trough:  
Pressure switch:   
Lowest trough:   
Pressure switch setting:   
Lowest trough:

**Ground elev. of low point:**  
enter elevation of pumping point as determined by accurate methods (USGS topo NOT accurate)



# Design Parameters

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Typical values range from \_\_\_\_\_ psi to \_\_\_\_\_ psi.

Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of trough. Recommended minimum is \_\_\_\_\_ psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pipe nominal diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: \_\_\_\_\_ in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: \_\_\_\_\_ ft./100 ft.  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): \_\_\_\_\_ fps

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If difference is less than 0 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

If the well is the high point in the system, the "Low point to pump "from"" will be higher than the "High point to pump to", resulting in a NEGATIVE number for the "Elevation difference."

This is not a bad thing!

### 4) Pump and Pressure

#### a) Summary of energy

Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 TOTAL REQUIRED HEAD: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

#### c) Dynamic Head added

Dynamic head = higher

Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the "Lift" Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x \_\_\_\_\_ minute = \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

\_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If pressure is required, consider alternate design or \_\_\_\_\_

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.



# Design Parameters

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).

If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Design flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe n: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Pipe d: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. OR  
 Velocity: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 If velocity is greater than 5 ft/sec, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to farthest watering point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA OPS 515): \_\_\_\_\_ psi

**Key Words:**  
**PUMP "TO"**  
**PUMP "FROM"**

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. or high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Low point pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. or low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
**TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

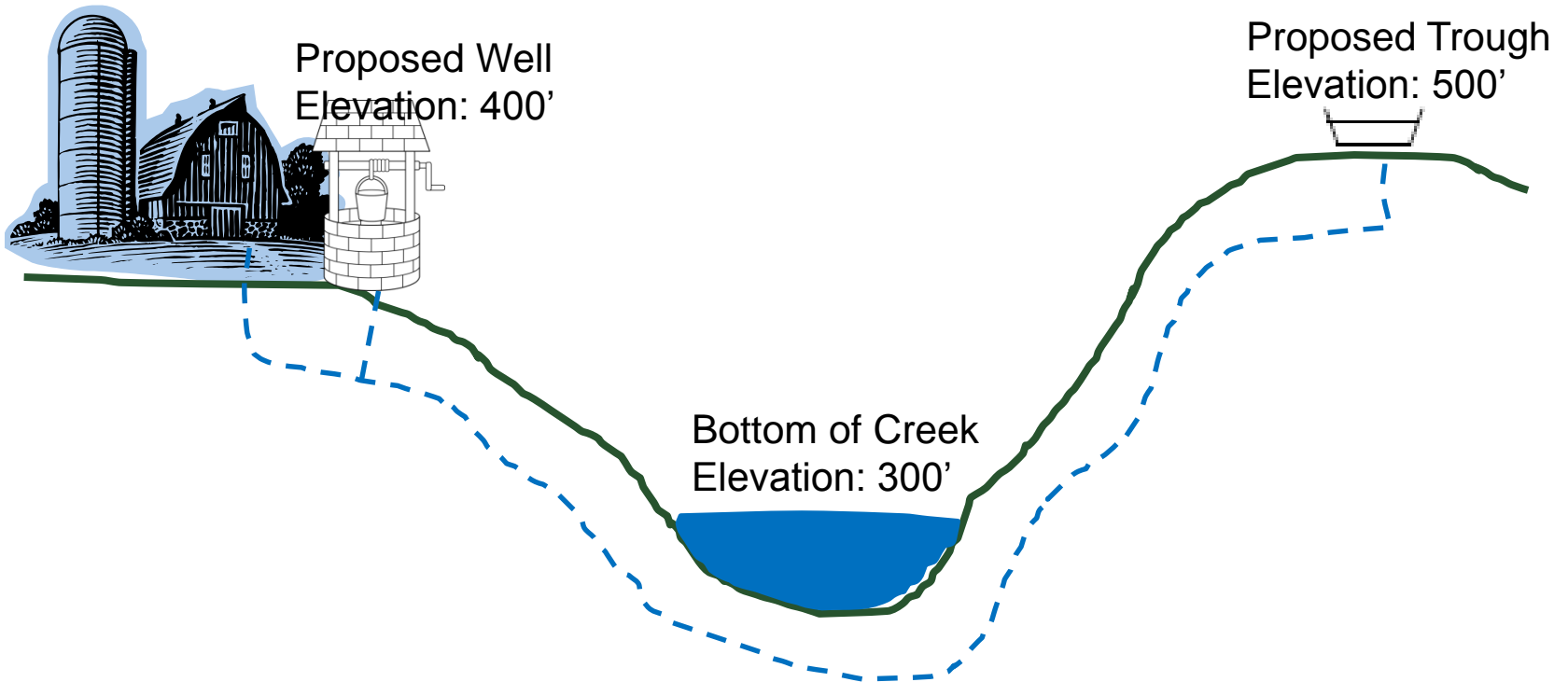
If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

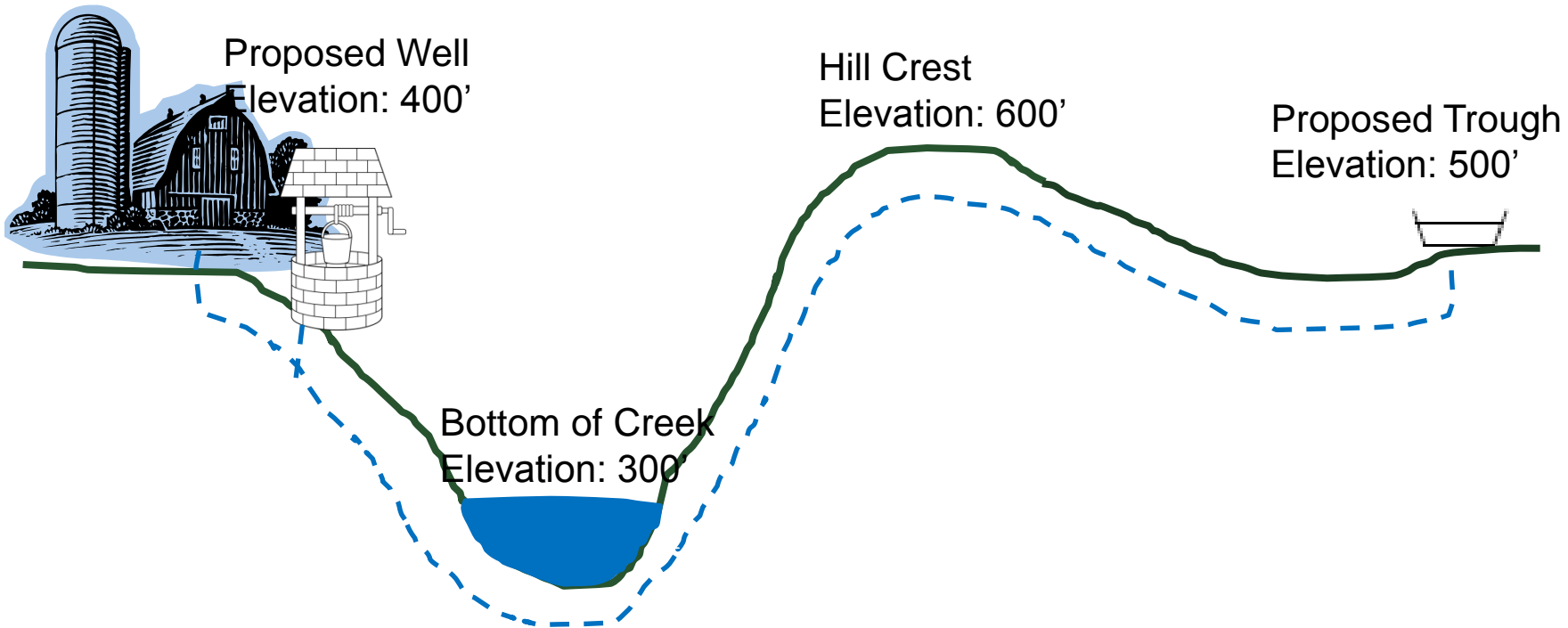
# Example



Low point to pump “from”: Well, 400'

High point to pump “to”: Proposed Trough, 500'

# Example



Low point to pump “from”: Well, 400'

High point to pump “to”: Hill Crest, 600'

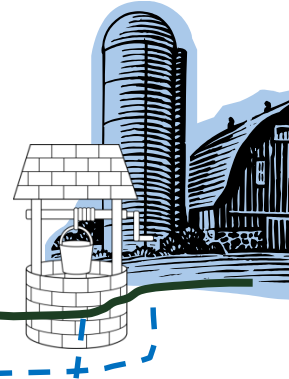
# Example

Proposed Well  
Elevation: 500'

Proposed Trough  
Elevation: 400'

Hill Crest  
Elevation: 600'

Bottom of Creek  
Elevation: 300'



Low point to pump “from”: Well, 500'

High point to pump “to”: Hill Crest, 600'

# 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer:

Project Notes:

The boxes in Section (4) "Pump and Pressure Tank Design" are mostly automatic calculations based on your inputs from above.

### e) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate:  gpm

Source daily yield:  gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).

If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s):

Design flow rate:  gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure:  psi

Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure:  psi

Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material:

Pipe nominal diameter:

Pipe average inner diameter:

Pipe cross-sectional area:

Friction loss/100 feet:

Velocity check:

If velocity is greater than 5 ft/sec, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to trough:

Add 10% for storage troughs

Total friction loss:

Total friction loss:

Pipe pressure rating:

2% of rating (See VA CPS 515):

The only input option for the user is the "Other" box for the energy budget. Here is where you would enter if you had performed a separate analysis (e.g. for evaluating two separate pipeline diameters).

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:  psi OR  feet

Friction loss:  psi OR  feet

Minimum float valve pressure:  psi OR  feet

Other:  psi OR  feet

TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:  psi OR  feet

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting:  psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)

High pressure switch setting:  psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)

If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of  gpm x

Minimum pumping time of  minute =

Minimum pressure tank volume of  gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of  psi x 2.31 =  feet

Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point:  ft

Elevation of pressure switch:  ft

Low pressure switch setting =  psi

Static pressure on switch =  psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch:  feet

Elevation of lowest trough:  feet

Difference:  feet OR  psi

Add high pressure switch setting:  psi

Total pressure at lowest trough:  psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# 5) Static Pressure Checks

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

Section (5) "Static Pressure Checks" will help check that there will not be excessive static pressure on:

- the pressure switch, and
- the float valves at the trough(s)

#### e) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Low point to pump "from": \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA OPS 515): \_\_\_\_\_ psi Compare with result in Step 5b.

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
**TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.



# 5) Static Pressure Checks

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

**“Elevation of highest point:”**

- Enter the highest elevation to which water will “stack” in the system.
- This *should* be the same elevation entered in box 3)c) “High point to pump to”.

#### e) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump “to”:  
 Ground elev. of high point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Low point to pump “from”:  
 Ground elev. of low point: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

Elevation difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi

If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe pressure rating: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 72% of rating (See VA OPS 515): \_\_\_\_\_ psi Compare with result in Step 5b.

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Friction loss:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
Other:	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	_____ psi	OR	_____ feet

**“Elevation of pressure switch:”**  
 Enter the elevation of the pressure switch.

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the ‘Lift’ Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.



# 5) Static Pressure Checks

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

Once the elevations are entered for the highest point and the pressure switch, the “Static pressure on switch” will be calculated.

- If the “Static pressure on switch” is greater than the low pressure pressure switch setting (the “cut-in” pressure), then the pressure switch will never activate the pump and the system will not work.
- If the worksheet has been completed correctly, this should never be an issue.

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Friction loss: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Minimum float valve pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
**TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:** \_\_\_\_\_ psi OR \_\_\_\_\_ feet

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of \_\_\_\_\_ minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons  
 This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
**Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi**  
 If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure;  
 red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# 5) Static Pressure Checks

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System Worksheet

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: 1/26/2016  
 Assisted By: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Notes:

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of Animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Water demand/animal/day: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 Total Daily Demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: \_\_\_\_\_ events  
 Time desired to water herd: \_\_\_\_\_ minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Source daily yield: \_\_\_\_\_ gpd  
 If source flow rate is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If source daily yield is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

**“Elevation of lowest trough:”** Enter the elevation of the lowest trough to check the static pressure on the trough’s float valve.

- This is the lowest trough in the SYSTEM
- If the pressure is excessive at the lowest trough, then check the next lowest trough to see if it has excessive static pressure, too.
- Continue checking trough elevations until static pressure is no longer an issue.

**• For the troughs with high pressure:**

- Install a high pressure valve (typically not rated higher than 90 or 100psi)
- Install a *pressure reducing valve* in the supply line
- Install a hybrid system (pressure and gravity)
  - using a reservoir on a float valve (see DN-614, Example 5 “Use of a Reservoir for Pressure Relief”)
  - using a storage trough on a float with a supply line to the lower trough

#### b) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of \_\_\_\_\_ psi x 2.31 = \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### Minimum Elevation Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of \_\_\_\_\_ gpm  
 Minimum pumping time of 1 minute = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Minimum pressure tank volume of \_\_\_\_\_ gallons

This is the minimum drawdown volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

#### a) Static pressure at pressure switch:

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

Elevation of highest point: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ ft  
 Low pressure switch setting = \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Static pressure on switch = \_\_\_\_\_ psi

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ feet  
 Difference: \_\_\_\_\_ feet OR  
 Add high pressure switch setting: \_\_\_\_\_ psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: \_\_\_\_\_ psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# Pressure Reducing Valves

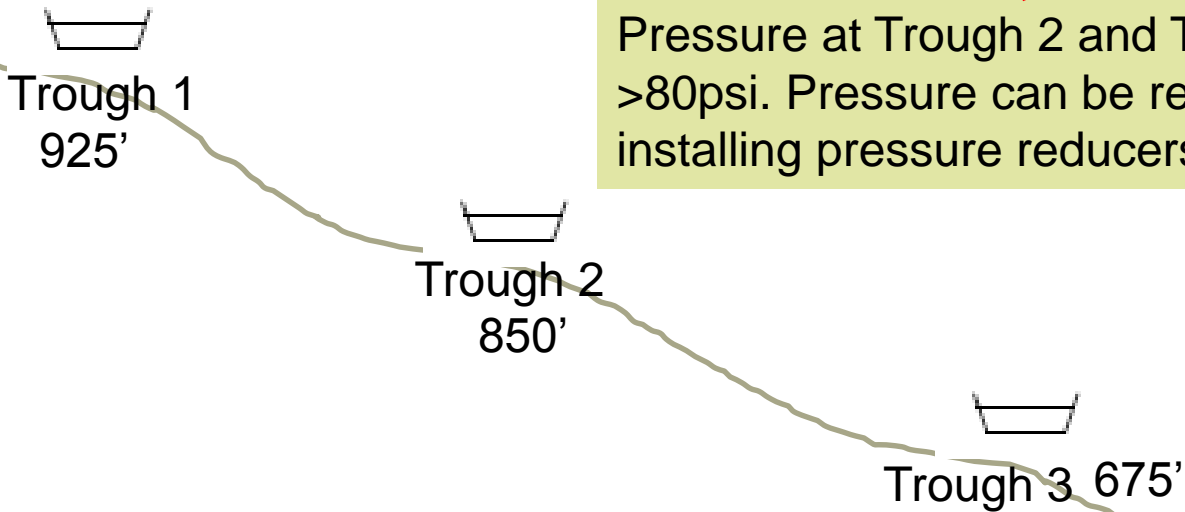
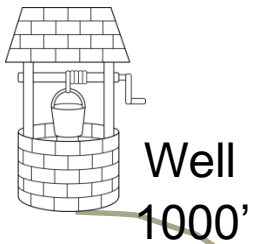
- Can be installed to reduce the pressure in the pipeline
- Will reduce the pressure in the line at the elevation where it is installed
- Pressure will continue to increase downstream of the reducer if the rest of the pipeline is downhill
- Can be installed on spur line to reduce pressure at individual troughs or on trunk line to reduce pressure on entire system downstream



# Pressure Reducer Example

Assume a 20/40 pressure switch located at the well.

Feature	Elevation (ft.)	Elevation Diff. from Well (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from Well (psi)	Static Pressure
Well	1000	0	0	40psi
Trough 1	925	75	+32.5	72.5psi
Trough 2	850	150	+64.9	<b>104.9psi</b>
Trough 3	675	325	+140.7	<b>180.7psi</b>

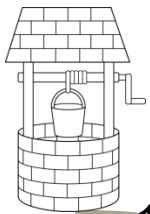


Pressure at Trough 2 and Trough 3 is >80psi. Pressure can be reduced by installing pressure reducers in the line.

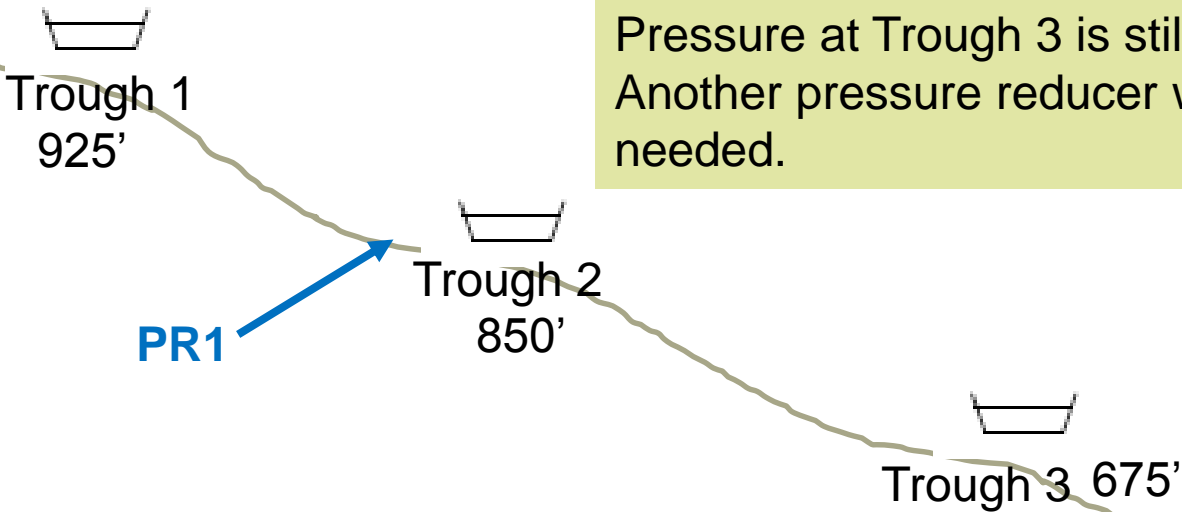
# Pressure Reducer Example

Assume a 20/40 pressure switch located at the well, and a **pressure reducing valve (PR1) at elevation 850 (just upstream of Trough 2) set to 50psi.**

Feature	Elev. (ft.)	Elevation Diff. from Well (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from Well (psi)	Elev. Diff. from PR1 (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from PR1 (psi)	Elev. Diff. from PR2 (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from PR2 (psi)	Static Pressure at Trough
Well	1000	0	0	-	-			40psi
Trough 1	925	75	+32.5	-	-			72.5psi
Trough 2	850	<del>150</del>	<del>+64.9</del>	0	0			<b>50psi</b>
Trough 3	675	<del>325</del>	<del>+140.7</del>	175	+75.8			<b>125.8psi</b>



1000'

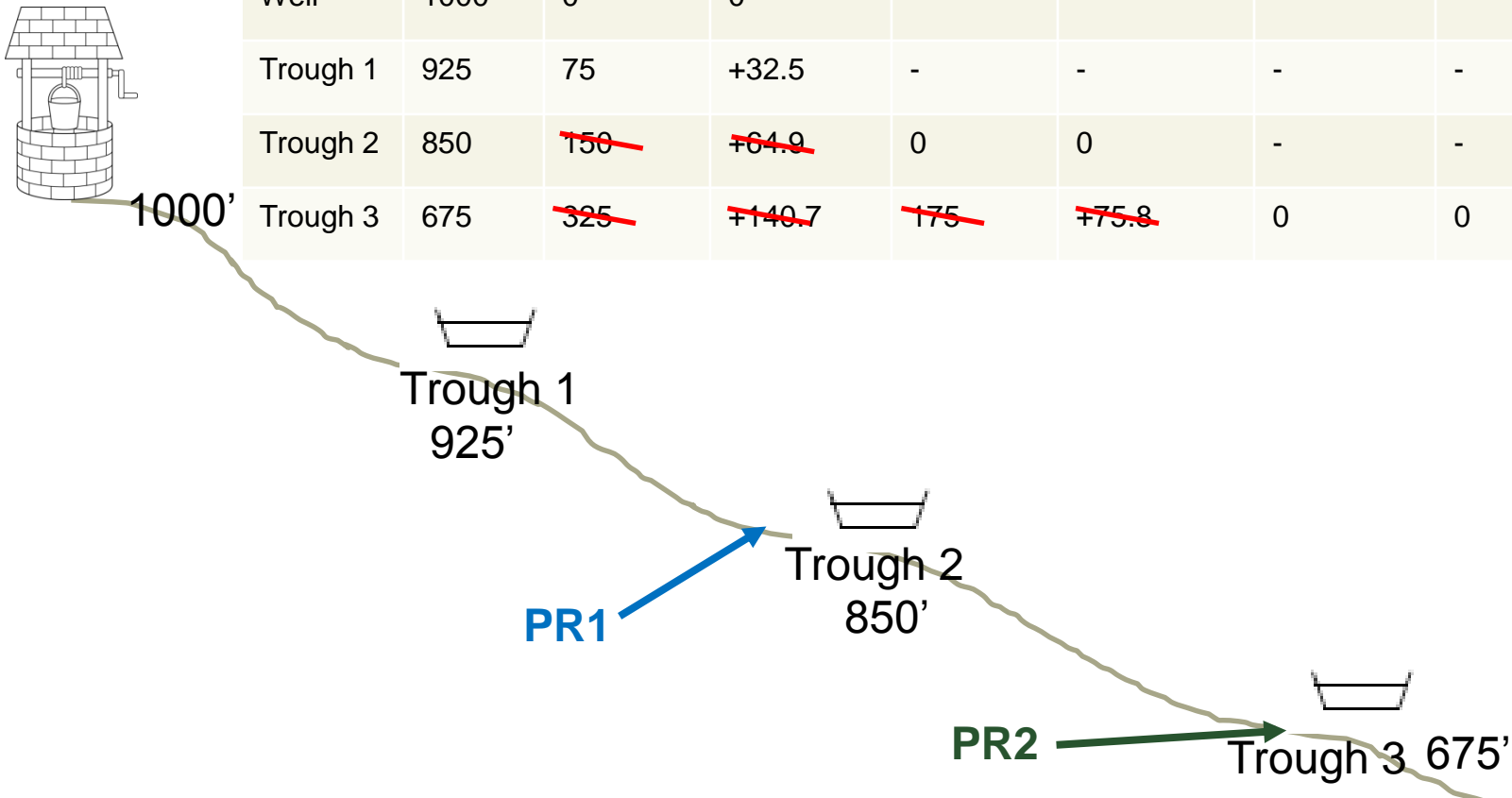


Pressure at Trough 3 is still >80psi. Another pressure reducer will be needed.

# Pressure Reducer Example

Assume a 20/40 pressure switch located at the well, **pressure reducing valve (PR1) at elevation 850 (just upstream of Trough 2) set to 50psi**, and a **pressure reducing valve (PR2) at elevation 675 (just upstream of Trough 2) set to 50psi**.

Feature	Elev. (ft.)	Elevation Diff. from Well (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from Well (psi)	Elev. Diff. from PR1 (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from PR1 (psi)	Elev. Diff. from PR2 (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from PR2 (psi)	Static Pressure at Trough
Well	1000	0	0	-	-	-	-	40psi
Trough 1	925	75	+32.5	-	-	-	-	72.5psi
Trough 2	850	<del>150</del>	<del>+64.9</del>	0	0	-	-	<b>50psi</b>
Trough 3	675	<del>325</del>	<del>+140.7</del>	<del>175</del>	<del>+75.8</del>	0	0	<b>50psi</b>

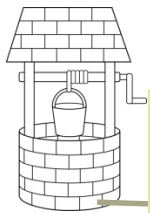




# Pressure Reducer Example

What if trough 3 were higher than Trough 2?

Feature	Elev. (ft.)	Elevation Diff. from Well (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from Well (psi)	Elev. Diff. from PR1 (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from PR1 (psi)	Elev. Diff. from PR2 (ft.)	Pressure Diff. from PR2 (psi)	Static Pressure at Trough
Well	1000	0	0	-	-	-	-	40psi
Trough 1	925	75	+32.5	-	-	-	-	72.5psi
Trough 2	850	<del>150</del>	<del>+64.9</del>	0	0	-	-	50psi
Trough 3	950	<del>50</del>	<del>+21.6</del>	+100	-43.3	-	-	6.7psi



1000'

There would not be enough pressure at Trough 3 if PR1 is installed in the main trunk line. A solution would be to install the pressure reducer on the spur line to Trough 2 so that only the pressure at Trough 2 is affected. Pressure at trough 3 would still be determined by its elevation difference from the well.



# Common Misconceptions: #1



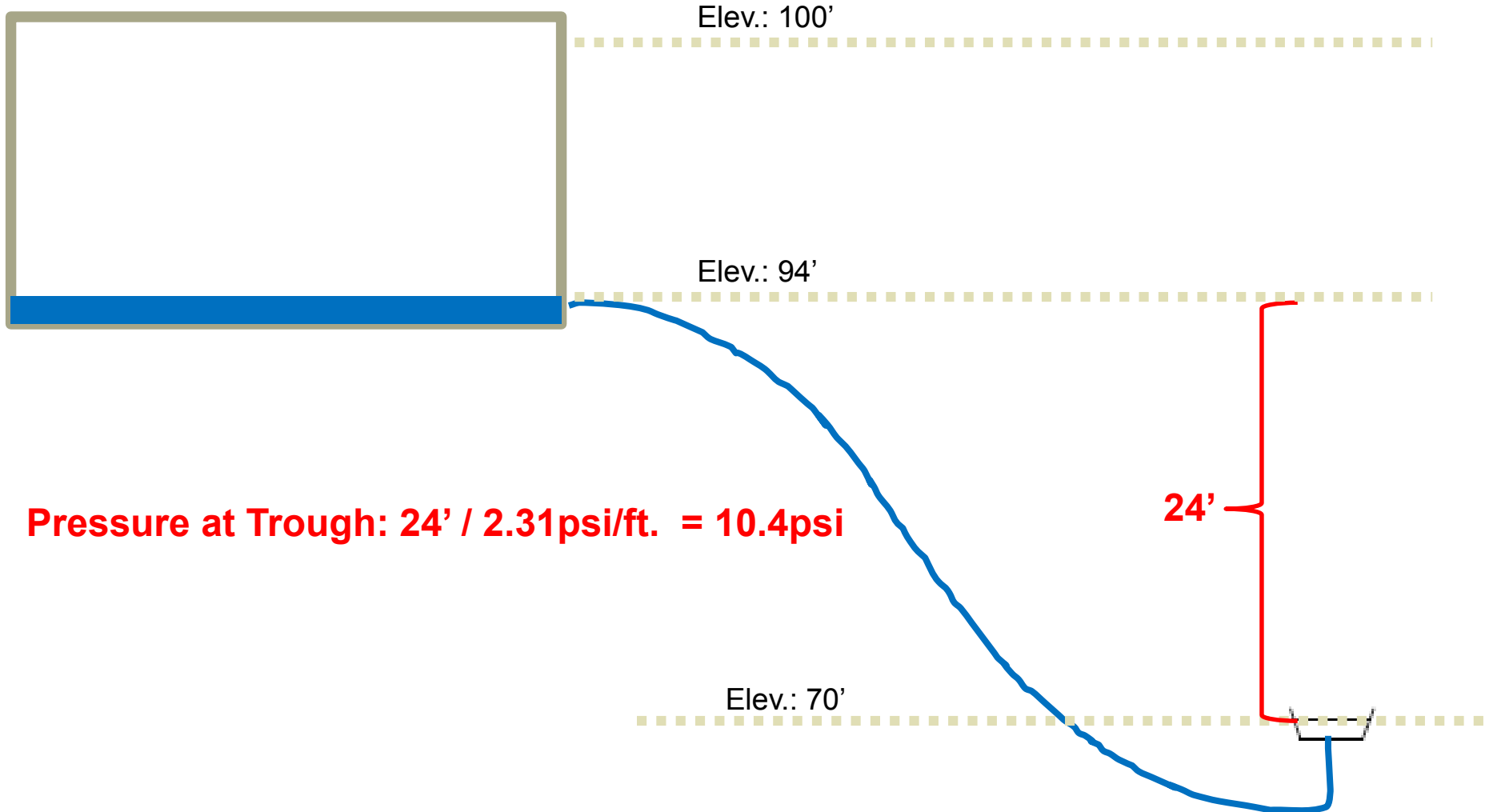
- High static pressure issues can be solved by installing a smaller pipeline diameter.
- **FALSE:** Static pressure is only dependent on the *height* of the column of water, not its diameter.
  - Actually, a smaller pipeline diameter entered into the worksheet can increase the friction loss, and may increase the pressure switch settings (resulting in *higher* static pressure) if you are not paying attention!

## Common Misconceptions: #2

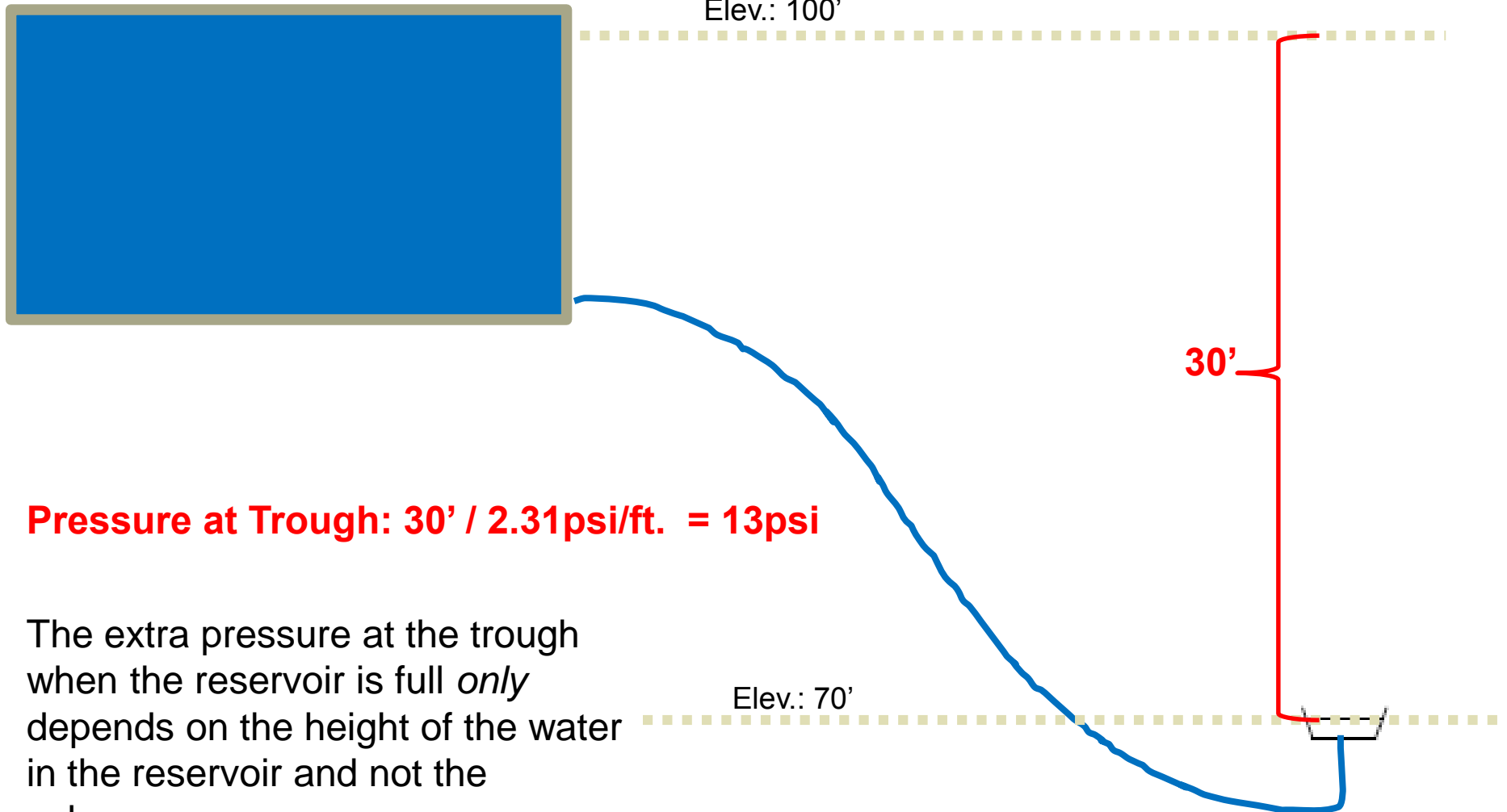


- Stored water in a reservoir somehow adds *extra* pressure to the system (more than just the height of the water would add).
- **FALSE:** Static pressure is only dependent on the *height* of the column of water, not its diameter.

# Example: Empty Reservoir



# Example: Full Reservoir



**Pressure at Trough:  $30' / 2.31\text{psi/ft.} = 13\text{psi}$**

The extra pressure at the trough when the reservoir is full *only* depends on the height of the water in the reservoir and not the volume.

## Common Misconceptions: #3



- Excessive static pressure can be solved by balancing it with high friction loss.
- **FALSE:** Static pressure refers to the pressure in the system when water is NOT moving. Friction loss only occurs when the water is moving.



## Common Misconceptions: #4



- When “Tee”-ing off of an existing pipeline in an existing system, it does not make sense to use a larger diameter pipeline than what is already installed.
- **FALSE:** Friction loss is cumulative. Using larger diameter pipeline for the new pipeline will minimize friction loss. Always perform calculations for the *existing* AND *new* pipeline to the watering point and add them together.

## Common Misconceptions: #5



- Pipeline size does not matter because the orifice of the float valve at the trough is very small and is the “bottleneck” in the system.
- **FALSE:** As the following slide shows, the orifice of most float valves has a capacity higher than most typical design flow rates.

# Common Float Valve Pressure Ranges

## Ritchie 3/4" Valve Series

Ritchie 3/4" valves come in four pressure ratings:



- White - 33 GPM, Low (5-40 psi)
- Red - 20 GPM, Moderate (40-60 psi)
- Green - 16.5 GPM, High (60-80 psi) ★
- Blue - 5 GPM, Very High (80-100 psi)



*"Originators of insulated poly waterers"*

Part No	GPM	Pressure
#336	14	Low 5 – 40 psi
#521	12.5	High 40 – 80 psi ★
#519	6	High 80 – 90 psi

★ = Typically included as the Standard Valve (Check with Supplier)

Notice that the highest pressure valves reduce the flow rate to below 8gpm. In high pressure situations, you may consider recommending a pressure reducing valve instead of a high-pressure valve so that the flow rate is not sacrificed.

# You **MIGHT** have done something wrong **IF**:

- The well/pressure switch is the highest point in the system and the worksheet calls for a pressure switch larger than 20/40
- The “static pressure on switch” box in Section 5.a. turns red
  - The static pressure on the switch should never be higher than the low switch setting if all inputs on the worksheet are correct.

# Considerations for Evaluating an *Existing* Pumping Plant



# Information to Gather: Existing Systems

- Age and condition of pumping plant
- Existing Pumping Rate
- Existing Pressure Switch Settings
- Length and diameter of existing pipeline
  - Evaluate for Friction Loss
- Existing Elevations
  - Existing elevations need to be considered for the “*High point to pump “to”*” and “*Elevation of lowest trough*”



# Age and Condition of Pumping Plant

- Goal: Determine if the existing pumping plant will last for the duration of the practice lifespan
  - How old is the existing pump?
  - Has the landowner ever experienced any problems with the pump?
  - Was the existing pumping plant installed as part of a conservation program? If so, is it still under contract lifespan?

# Existing Pumping Rate

- Why does the existing pumping rate matter?
  1. Is the pumping rate sufficient to supply the livestock?
  2. Should be used to size the pipeline if the existing pump will be used
- How to determine:
  - If the well was installed recently, the pumping rate may be listed on the “Water Well Completion Report” at the Health Dept.
    - Look for the pump capacity (different from well yield)
  - Manual Pumping Rate Test:
    - Find a hydrant (something with a full flow orifice) near the pumping plant
    - Open the hydrant up and wait for the pressure tank to empty
    - Once the tank is empty and the switch engages the pump, begin collecting the water in a container of known volume
    - Time how long it takes to fill the container
    - Divide the gallons filled by the time it took (in minutes) to come up with the pumping rate in GPM
- Where to input into worksheet:
  - “Source Flow Rate” → “Design Flow Rate”
  - Also document well yield on worksheet

# Pressure Switch Settings

- 1) Complete the “Pressure System Worksheet” using the existing pumping rate
- 2) What pressure switch requirements are generated by the worksheet?
- 3) If the worksheet calls for pressure switch settings that are higher than the existing settings, the total head on the pump will increase, and the contractor/plumber will need to evaluate the impact on the pump
  - This process is for planning purposes: Do we need to plan for a new pump?
  - Sizing pumps is beyond the scope of our responsibility
  - Leave it up to the professionals!



# Pressure Switch Settings Cont'd

- Increasing the head on the pump will reduce its pumping rate
- If you don't have info on the pump (model #), you won't know how the pumping rate will be affected

Existing System: at 290ft. of head, **5gpm** pumping rate

Ex. Pump, New Switch: Increase pressure switch from 20/40 to 40/60, a net increase of 20psi.

$20\text{psi} \times 2.31\text{ft/psi} = 46.2\text{ft} \approx 46\text{ft}$  of head

New total head on pump:  $290\text{ft.} + 46.2\text{ft.} = 336\text{ft.}$

New Pumping rate:  **$3\frac{1}{3}$  gpm**



# Existing Pump Example

- The following example will show the importance of using the *existing* pumping rate *if* you will be using an *existing* pump.
- The first worksheet will be run as if the planner has assumed an “Alternate Peak Demand” of 8gpm.
- The second worksheet will be run with the actual pumping rate of 15gpm.
- A discussion will follow.

## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure S

If an "alternate peak demand" of 8gpm is used for 4-hole troughs, then the friction loss is only **5.2psi** energy requirements of the system are **29.0psi**, resulting in pressure switch settings of **30/50**.

Project Notes: Worksheet 1: Assuming a design flow rate of 8gpm.

Print Page

Clear Data

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer: Example  
 County: Example  
 Date: 9/26/2016  
 Assisted By: Raleigh Coleman

### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock: beef  
 Number of Animals: 50  
 Water demand/animal/day: 20 gpd  
**Total Daily Demand: 1000 gpd**

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day: 3 events  
 Time desired to water herd: 60 minutes/event  
 Average peak demand: 5.6 gpm  
 Alternate peak demand: 8 gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate: 15 gpm  
 Source daily yield: 21600 gpd  
 If **source flow rate** is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).  
 If **source daily yield** is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s): 4-Hole Frost-Free  
 Design flow rate: Alternate Peak Demand 8.0 gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: 80 psi  
 Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure: 10 psi  
 Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material: Plastic: PE SDR-PR  
 Pipe nominal diameter: 1 1/4"  
 Pipe avg. inner diameter: 1.38 in.  
 Pipe cross-sectional area: 0.0104 sq. ft.  
 Friction loss/100 ft: 1.1 ft./100 ft.  
 Velocity check (<5 fps): 1.7 fps

If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to farthest watering point: 1000 feet  
 Add 10% for slope and fittings: 1100 feet  
 Total friction loss: 12 ft. OR  
 Total friction loss: 5.2 psi

Pipe pressure rating: 160 psi  
 72% of rating (See VA CPS 516): 115 psi Compare with result in Step 5b.

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to": Trough 1  
 Ground elev. of high point: 460 feet  
 Low point to pump "from": Well  
 Ground elev. of low point: 428 feet  
 Elevation difference: 32 feet  
 OR 13.9 psi

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	13.9 psi	OR	32 feet
Friction loss:	5.2 psi	OR	12 feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	10 psi	OR	23 feet
Other:		OR	
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	<b>29.0 psi</b>	OR	<b>67 feet</b>

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of 50 psi x 2.31 = 116 feet

Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting: 30 psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: 50 psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of 8.0 gpm x  
 Minimum pumping time of 1 minute =  
 Minimum pressure tank volume 8.0 gallons

This is the minimum draw down volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

**a) Static pressure at pressure switch**  
 Elevation of highest point: 480.0 ft  
 Elevation of pressure switch: 428 ft  
 Low pressure switch setting: 30 psi  
 Static pressure on switch = 22.5 psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

**b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:**  
 Elevation of pressure switch: 428 feet  
 Elevation of lowest trough: 480 feet  
 Difference: -52 feet OR  
 Add high pressure switch setting: 50 psi  
 Total pressure at lowest trough: 27.5 psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.



## Virginia Livestock Watering Systems - Pressure System

If the actual pumping rate of 15gpm used, then the friction loss jumps up to **16.6psi** and the energy requirements of the system are **40.5psi** resulting in pressure switch settings of **40/60**.

### 1) Assistance Information

Customer:	Example
County:	Example
Date:	9/26/2016
Assisted By:	Raleigh Coleman

Project Notes: Worksheet 2: Using the existing pumping rate of 20gpm.

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### 2) Water Budget

#### a) Total Daily Water Demand

Type of livestock:	beef
Number of Animals:	50
Water demand/animal/day:	20 gpd
<b>Total Daily Demand:</b>	<b>1000 gpd</b>

See Design Note for watering recommendations for various types of livestock.

#### b) Daily Peak Water Demand

Number of times herd drinks/day:	3 events
Time desired to water herd:	60 minutes/event
Average peak demand:	5.6 gpm
Alternate peak demand:	8 gpm

See Design Note for considerations for estimating peak demand.

#### c) Evaluate Source

Source flow rate:	15 gpm
Source daily yield:	21600 gpd

If **source flow rate** is close to or less than Peak Demand, consider storage alternatives (see 2nd Tab).

If **source daily yield** is less than Daily Demand, consider an alternate or supplemental water source.

### 3) Design Parameters

#### a) Trough Information

Trough type(s):	4-Hole Frost-Free
Design flow rate:	15.0 gpm

Select flow rate to troughs as guided by Step 2 and Design Note. Typical design flow rates are: 8 gpm for frost-free troughs; 5 gpm for storage troughs.

Maximum float valve pressure: 80 psi

Typical values range from 50-140 psi. Check manufacturer's recommendations.

Minimum float valve pressure: 10 psi

Varies depending on type of float. Use manufacturer's recommended minimum. Typical value is 10 psi.

#### b) Pipe Information

Pipe material:	Plastic: PE SDR-PR
Pipe nominal diameter:	1 1/4"
Pipe avg. inner diameter:	1.38 in.
Pipe cross-sectional area:	0.0104 sq. ft.
Friction loss/100 ft:	3.5 ft./100 ft.
Velocity check (<5 fps):	3.2 fps

If velocity is greater than 5 fps, consider a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe length to farthest watering point:	1000 feet
Add 10% for slope and fittings:	1100 feet
Total friction loss:	38 ft. OR
Total friction loss:	16.6 psi

If friction loss is greater than 10 psi, consider using a larger diameter pipe.

Pipe pressure rating:	160 psi
72% of rating (See VA CPS 516):	115 psi

Compare with result in Step 5b.

#### c) Vertical Pumping Distance

High point to pump "to":	Trough 1
Ground elev. of high point:	460 feet

Low point to pump "from":	Well
Ground elev. of low point:	428 feet

Elevation difference:	32 feet
OR	13.9 psi

### 4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design

#### a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:

Elevation head:	13.9 psi	OR	32 feet
Friction loss:	16.6 psi	OR	38 feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	10 psi	OR	23 feet
Other:	psi	OR	feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	<b>40.5 psi</b>	<b>OR</b>	<b>93 feet</b>

#### c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of 60 psi x 2.31 = 139 feet

Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

#### b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:

Low pressure switch setting:	40 psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)
High pressure switch setting:	60 psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)

If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

#### d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:

Design pumping rate of	15.0 gpm x
Minimum pumping time of	1 minute =
Minimum pressure tank volume:	15.0 gallons

This is the minimum draw down volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

### 5) Static Pressure Checks

a) Static pressure at pressure switch	Elevation of highest point:	480.0 ft
	Elevation of pressure switch:	428 ft
	Low pressure switch setting:	40 psi
	Static pressure on switch =	22.5 psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

#### b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:

Elevation of pressure switch:	428 feet
Elevation of lowest trough:	480 feet
Difference:	-52 feet
Add high pressure switch setting:	OR
Total pressure at lowest trough:	-22.5 psi
	60 psi
	37.5 psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

# Discussion

- What if the system is designed based on an arbitrary pumping rate of 8gpm when the pump is actually pumping at 15gpm?
  - The energy requirement to deliver the water to the trough is actually 40.5psi
  - It only takes 30psi for water to enter the pressure tank (a 30/50 pressure switch was used based on the 8gpm flow rate)
  - When the pump kicks on, the pressure tank is the “path of least resistance” and will begin to fill first
  - Trough will not fill until sufficient pressure is achieved in the tank
  - → The trough will be “short-circuited” by the tank
- The system may still work, but it will be inefficient and livestock will be waiting for water every time the pressure tank empties
- *Note: This example is exaggerated to illustrate a concept. A 15gpm pumping rate will be unlikely for most standard well pumps*



Just remember: use the existing pumping rate as the “design flow rate” if using an existing pumping plant.

(Or, if the existing pump rate is inappropriate, plan for a new pump.)

# Important Point for Existing Pumps:

- Don't confuse *flow rate* and *pressure*
- A high flow rate does NOT necessarily mean there is too much pressure
- Pressure is governed by the pressure switch
- A high flow rate can actually mean there will not be ENOUGH pressure to overcome the higher friction loss associated with higher flow rates

# User Beware: Things that the worksheet will not catch

- Static pressure issues in pipeline if there is a low point in pipeline below the lowest trough
  - Check static pressure (can enter into “Elevation of lowest trough” to check)
  - Compare against 72% of pressure rating
- If the well is higher than the pressure switch: dynamic head added to pump will be *less* than what the worksheet calculates
- If the well is *lower* than the pressure switch: dynamic head added to pump will be *higher* than what the worksheet calculates

# Worksheet Completion

- You might do multiple analyses for various reasons, but only give ONE worksheet to the contractor to show the total dynamic head for the entire system, the design flow rate, pressure switch settings.
- Reference the worksheet in the design so that the contractor knows to look for it.
- Keep the other worksheet(s) in your file to document your calculations.



# Construction Changes

- If the system needs to be changed during construction, re-run the worksheet to see if anything is affected
- Pumps pumping higher GPM than Design Flow Rate can be problematic!
- If the producer uses a pressure switch that is *higher* than what the worksheet called for, add the difference between the two switches to the static pressure check on the worksheet to see if it causes any static pressure issues

EXAMPLE:

**4) Pump and Pressure Tank Design**

**a) Summary of energy requirements for the watering system:**

Elevation head:	4.3	psi	OR	10	feet
Friction loss:	8.4	psi	OR	19	feet
Minimum float valve pressure:	10	psi	OR	23	feet
Other:		psi	OR		feet
<b>TOTAL REQUIREMENTS:</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>psi</b>	<b>OR</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>feet</b>

**b) Pressure Switch Settings Based on System Load:**

Low pressure switch setting: 20 psi (Minimum is 20 psi.)  
 High pressure switch setting: 40 psi (Max. is usually 80 psi.)  
 If a high pressure switch setting of 80 psi or more is required, consider alternate design or high pressure-rated tank.

**c) Dynamic Head added to pump by the watering system:**

Dynamic head = higher switch setting of 40 psi x 2.31 = 92 feet  
 Total Dynamic Head will equal this number plus the 'Lift' Head required to get the water from the source up to the distribution system. The flow rate and the Total Dynamic Head will be used to size the pump for the project.

**d) Minimum Effective Drawdown for Pressure Tank:**

Design pumping rate of	8.0	gpm	x	
Minimum pumping time of	1	minute	=	
Minimum pressure tank volume:	8.0	gallons		

This is the minimum draw down volume required to allow the pump to run for at least one minute before shutting off. A larger volume can be used.

---

**5) Static Pressure Checks**

**a) Static pressure at pressure switch**

Elevation of highest point:	360.0	ft
Elevation of pressure switch:	350	ft
Low pressure switch setting =	20	psi
Static pressure on switch =	4.3	psi

If static pressure on the switch exceeds low pressure switch setting (red cell), the pump will not turn back on after trough is initially filled and then emptied.

**b) Check static pressure at lowest trough:**

Elevation of pressure switch:	350	feet	
Elevation of lowest trough:	275	feet	
Difference:	75	feet	
Add high pressure switch setting:	OR	32.5	psi
Total pressure at lowest trough:		40	psi
		72.5	psi

Orange cell: pressure exceeds max float valve pressure; red cell: pipe pressure limit exceeded. Check troughs at higher elevations if pressure is excessive at lowest trough.

Worksheet calls for a 20/40 pressure switch. Contractor installed 40/60 pressure switch. There is more than enough pressure to make the system work, but will it create static pressure issues?

40/60 – 20/40 = 20psi increase

72.5 psi (at lowest trough) + 20psi = **92.5 psi\*\*\*This is too high for standard valves!**

## A quick note on as-builts...

- The more detailed your as-builts are, the more useful they will be in the future if needed to tie back into the system
  - Did the pipeline route change?
  - Pipeline lengths
  - Pipeline type (ASTM, diameter, pressure rating)
  - Pumping Plant Info (Pump Model Number, Pumping Rate, Pressure Switch Settings, Size of Tank, etc.)
  - Etc...

# NRCS Construction Quality Assurance Plans

## Items to be inspected and verified:

- Verify that the landowner has obtained all of the required permits prior to construction.
- Verify that MISS UTILITY is contacted prior to construction for underground utility location.
- Photograph the site, before, during and after construction.
- A pre-construction meeting needs to take place so that all parties involved understand their roles and responsibilities.
- Verify the watering system components were installed in the designed locations.
- **Watering Troughs & Reservoirs**
  - Document the type and number of watering troughs and reservoirs that were installed.
  - Verify that the watering troughs and reservoirs have been installed per the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with the design.
  - For frost-free troughs, verify there is a minimum of 18" of concrete from the edge of the trough in each direction.
  - Verify the heavy use area surrounding the trough extends at least 8' from the edge of the trough in each direction.
  - Verify the thickness(es) and the material(s) used for the heavy use area protection are as designed.
  - Verify that the correct type of geotextile was used under the heavy use area protection.

### **Pipelines**

- Verify the type, diameter, length and depth of pipe installed are as designed.
- Verify the installation procedures, including assembly of joints and fittings, are correct for the type of pipeline, as designed.
- For pressure systems, verify that the pipe was pressure tested prior to backfilling.
- Verify that the pipeline trench has been backfilled and properly compacted.

- Verify that a valve has been installed in the lateral(s) to regulate flow to the trough(s) and a means of draining the pipeline between the valve and trough has been installed.
- **Water Wells**
  - Obtain a copy of the Commonwealth of Virginia Water Well Completion Report – Certificate of Completion/County Permit (DEQ form) or the Virginia Department of Health Uniform Water Well Completion Report.
  - Obtain the estimated yield of the well and check against the assumed yield used in designing the system.
  - Obtain information (horsepower rating, performance curve, etc.) about the pump used.
- **Spring Developments**
  - Verify that the spring development is installed as designed, if applicable.
  - Obtain the estimated yield of the spring and check against the assumed yield used in designing the system.
- Verify that the practices installed are functioning as designed.
- Ensure that all disturbed areas have been re-vegetated and/or protected from erosion.
- Verify that any design changes have been documented and approved by someone with the appropriate EJAA.
- Verify that the appropriate As-Built documentation has been completed.
- Site specific items to be inspected and verified: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Resources for Further Study

- NRCS Virginia Engineering Design Note 614 (DN-614)
- NRCS Engineering Field Handbook, Chapter 3: Hydraulics

## Special Thanks...

- Glenn Chappell, James River SWCD for securing the location
- Pat McIlvaine, Loudon SWCD, Stone
- Keith Burgess, Monacan SWCD, supplies
- Dana Young, NRCS, supplies
- Sharyl Walker, NRCS, supplies

# Questions?



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# Discussion of 3 Common Systems

- Conventional
- Remote Pressure Tank
- Reservoir with Pump on Timer

DN-614-II-1

## Part II: Design Examples

Part I presented an overview of concepts and the general process for planning, designing, installing, and maintaining a livestock watering system. Part II presents eight examples to illustrate different design strategies. Calculations and discussion are based on the Virginia Livestock Watering Systems calculation worksheets. The spreadsheet tool addresses pressure systems, gravity systems, and hybrid systems and provides a means for performing design calculations as well as for documenting key information.

---

# 1. Conventional Pressure System

## 1. Pressure Systems

A typical pressure system scenario involves using a pump to move water from a source to one or more troughs using utility-supplied electricity to power the pump motor. A pressure tank is used to protect the pump from rapid on and off cycling. The design calculations are aimed at sizing the pipeline, determining the energy required by the distribution system (to aid pump selection), sizing the pressure tank, and checking that system pressures are within mechanical and material limits. Usually the pressure tank and pressure switch are located near the pump. The calculations presented in this section cover the typical case. However, there may be good reason to place the pressure tank (and possibly the pressure switch) at a location remote from the pump – these situations are addressed with examples in Part II. The basic design steps are the same, however.

- Typically the least-cost alternative for systems with wells with yields that can meet the peak demand

## 2. Remote Pressure Tank

DN-614-II-3

### Example 2 – Pressure System with a Remote Pressure Tank

In Example 1, the pump, pressure tank, and pressure switch are located close to each other. In some cases, it is advantageous to locate the pressure tank at some distance from the pump. Reasons for using a remote pressure tank include:

- Reducing the pressure, size, and expense of the pressure tank by placing it at an elevation between the pump and the highest trough.
- Convenience of location (for example, using an existing shelter to house the pressure tank). See Example 3 for such a scenario.

In such cases, consideration should also be given to the location of the pressure switch.

- 1) If the pressure switch is located with the pressure tank, the wire to the pump will have to be placed in the pipeline ditch where it is subject to damage by lightning or burrowing animals. As distance from the pump increases, the heavier the wire gauge required and the greater the wire cost. (See Appendix A-6.)
- 2) If the pressure switch is located near the pump and away from the pressure tank, there is greater fluctuation in the pressure sensed at the switch due to the increased distance from the tank. To reduce “flutter” (rapid switching on and off), and thus to protect the pump from premature wear, a snubber (small orifice) can be installed. See Appendix B-3 for a pressure switch with a snubber detail drawing.

# 3. Reservoir with Pump on Timer

## *Hybrid or Pressure-Energy Systems:*

A hybrid system uses pressure energy from a pump to transport water to a reservoir and then uses the reservoir's potential energy to deliver the water to the troughs which are topographically downhill. The pump can be placed on a timer to ensure that the pump is on for a given amount of time to fill the reservoir. This approach replaces the pressure tank and pressure switch for preventing pump burn-out due to short-cycle pumping. Reservoirs can also serve as pressure reducers in cases where troughs are much lower in elevation than the source. Part II discusses a variety of energy strategies.

DN-614-II-14

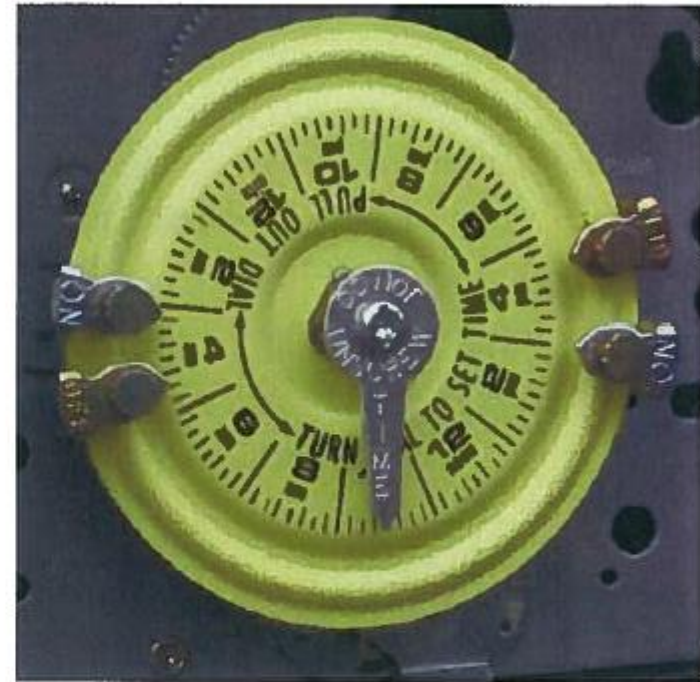
## **Example 5 – Use of a Reservoir for Pressure Relief**

DN-614-II-18

## **Example 6 – Reservoir System on Timer**



- d) **If Pumping to a Reservoir**, compute the following to determine the energy that needs to be supplied by the pump to get the water to the reservoir:
- i. Record the desired pumping rate (gpm) to the reservoir. This value is **not** the same as the design flow rate to the troughs. Choose a rate that will fill the reservoir in a timely manner without exceeding the flow rate of the source. Choose a flow rate that will allow the selected pump to run long enough to avoid premature wear from short cycling. A run time of 3-6 hours, two times a day is typical. A timer controls when the pump is on. The timer in the photograph is set to run the pump from 3:00 AM-4:30 AM and again from 3:00 PM-4:30 PM.



*Pump timer. Photograph courtesy of Mountain Castles SWCD.*

The pumping rate and corresponding head must also be compatible with the pumps available from the supplier. Once the pump has been selected, re-work the calculations below using the flow rate from the pump's performance curve.

- ii. Determine the pumping duration required to meet the daily water demand from Step 2a:

$$\text{Pumping duration (min.)} = \frac{\text{Daily demand (gpd)}}{\text{Desired pumping rate (gpm)}}$$



- Float-valve systems: Troughs are tee-ed off from a main line with flow to each trough controlled by a float valve. Flow to a trough shuts off when the trough is filled, and thus, static pressure can be of concern if there is sufficient head.
- ~~Cascading systems: Troughs are connected in series by way of their overflow pipes. There are no float valves – instead, water overflows from one trough to the next lower trough. Overflow from the last trough is generally directed back to the natural drainage system.~~

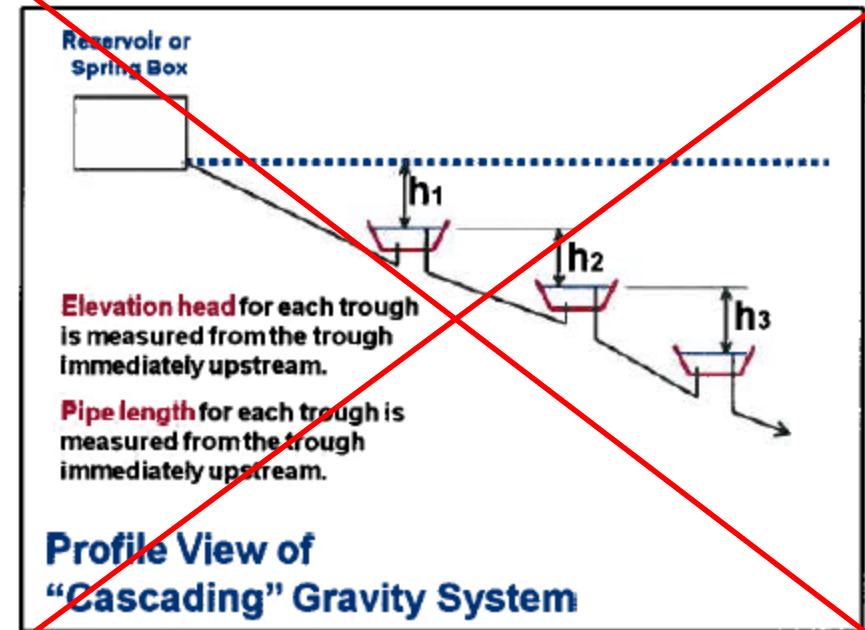
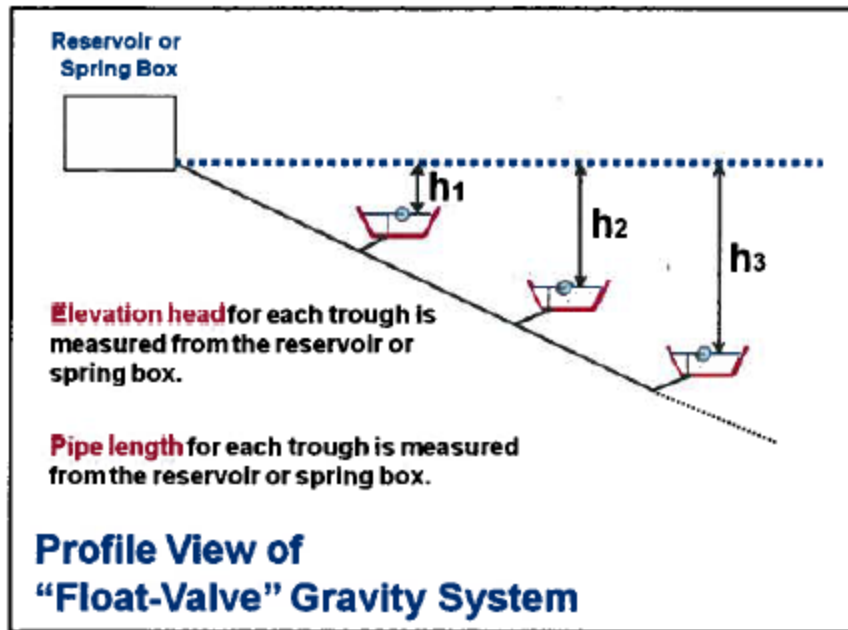


Figure I-5. Float Valve vs. Cascading Trough Arrangements.

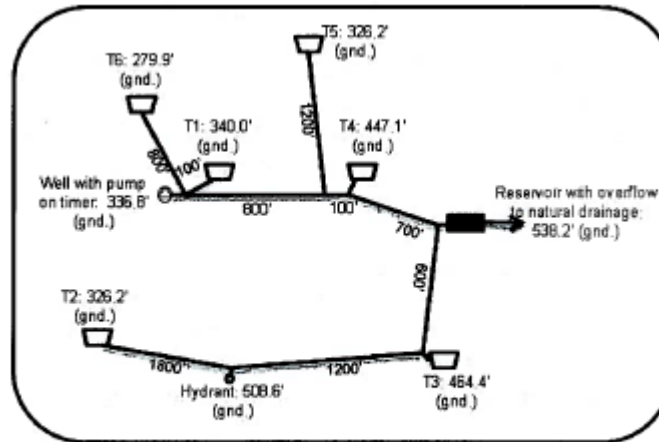


Figure II-15. Layout for Example 6 – Reservoir System on Timer

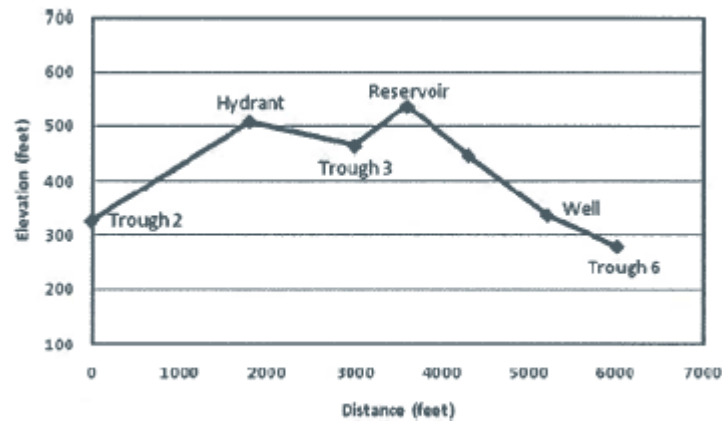


Figure II-16. Profile for Example 6.