



# INSTALLATION GUIDE

## Installation Tips

- **PRO TIP** - It is a great convenience to install a shut-off valve to each Drinking Post.

### Paddle Adjustment:

- **THIS IS IMPORTANT** - Drinking Posts are designed to have a little bit of play or wiggle in the paddle when not in use. If the paddle is tight or cannot move up and down a little bit when not in use, adjust the set screw on the paddle. Paddles should be adjusted such that there is **NO PRESSURE** on the activating rod when not in use.
- **Here is a video showing proper paddle adjustment tension:**  
<http://www.drinkingpost.com/paddle/>

### Splitting a Fence Line:

- The paddle can face any direction when splitting a fence line. Most prefer one of two methods. Either face the paddle directly to the side, so it is identical accessing the post from either side. Alternatively face the paddle perpendicular to the fence line, so one side has the paddle facing directly toward and the other directly away. Both options work great, and you can always adjust by slightly tightening or loosening the entire interior at any point in the future.
- Once installed, Drinking Posts can easily be removed from ground level for maintenance or troubleshooting. There is no need to dig up Drinking Posts after installation for normal maintenance or troubleshooting procedures.
- **There is an online resource available to walk through common parts replacement procedures:**  
<http://www.drinkingpost.com/maintenance/>

## Training Instructions

- You should not spend more than 30 seconds a day training!!!
  - Fill the bowl once in the morning and once in the evening – that's it!
- 1) There must be **NO WATER** within reach except what is available via The Drinking Post (that means no buckets of water or old troughs full of water-no water anywhere)! Your animal will not rely on The Drinking Post waterer unless he has no other means to quench his thirst.
  - 2) Your animal needs to be thirsty. Depending on weather and feed (i.e. -lush grass vs. dry hay) thirsty can mean 8 hours without water. Offer water (from The Drinking Post) following a morning feeding of hay for example and then again after evening feed.
  - 3) When your animal is thirsty....walk them to the Drinking Post. Push the paddle down once and hold to fill the bowl (only once) and walk away immediately. If you stay and continue to fill the bowl for your animal they will be training you to fill their bowl for them!
  - 4) The number of times you need to repeat this training schedule varies. Some animals take a few days (i.e. showing them twice a day); some only one lesson. Our Posts have been in the field since 1974 and we have yet to have a report of an animal that would not use The Drinking Post.
  - 5) In a herd situation, other animals usually do not have to be trained by you. They will imitate the one that uses the Post. Foals learn quickly from their dams.
  - 6) As with any sound management program (even horses on pasture) each horse, his housing, and equipment, should be visually checked on a daily basis. Any health, injury, or maintenance problems can be easily identified at this time.

## Troubleshooting

- **There is an online troubleshooting guide available:**  
<http://www.drinkingpost.com/troubleshoot/>
- **Problem:** A “rattle” or similar noise when the Drinking Post is in use.  
**Fix:** This is normal. No need to fix.
- **Problem:** Water entering the bowl is dirty and muddy - OR - Water does not enter the bowl when the paddle is depressed, but you can hear water or air running below.  
**Fix:** Remove Drinking Post, flush the waterline, and visually inspect intake filter for debris clogging the filter.  
<https://www.dpwaterer.com/maintenance/> (scroll to bottom and click link “How to Clean Intake Filter”)
- **Problem:** During winter conditions or freezing temperatures, the paddle can be “stiff”, difficult to depress, or frozen in place first thing in the morning.  
**Fix:** Pour warm water into the bowl to immediately get the Drinking Post working, then lubricate the activating rod and hinge points with Vaseline. You will need to remove the rod and lubricate the entire rod, not just the tip protruding in the bowl.  
<https://www.dpwaterer.com/winterize/>
- **Problem:** Bowl fills on its own without depressing the paddle. This problem is most common when installing Drinking Posts when temperatures are below freezing.  
**Fix:** Adjust the set screw on the paddle.

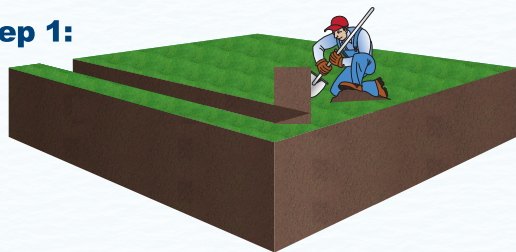




# Installation Guide

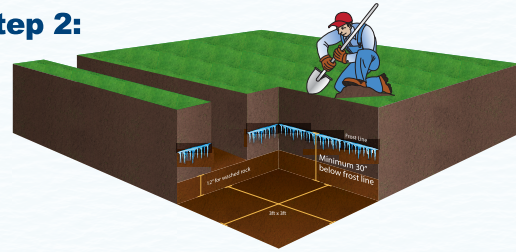
- The Drinking Post may be installed anywhere there is a pressurized water supply line.
  - No electricity is necessary.
  - Optimum water pressure requirement: between 25 and 65 PSI.
    - Anything over 65 PSI will require a pressure reducer.
    - Under 20 PSI Drinking Post will not function properly.
- Once installed, Drinking Posts can easily be removed from ground level for maintenance or troubleshooting. There is no need to dig up Drinking Posts after installation for normal maintenance or troubleshooting procedures.
- For troubleshooting, visit: [www.drinkingpost.com/troubleshoot](http://www.drinkingpost.com/troubleshoot)
- For common part replacement guides, visit: [www.drinkingpost.com/maintenance](http://www.drinkingpost.com/maintenance)

## Step 1:



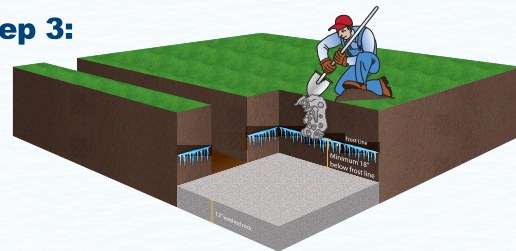
Dig the water supply trench and install the water line to the waterer installation point.

## Step 2:



- At point of installation, enlarge hole to be at least 3' wide x 3' wide and a **minimum of 30" below frost line.**
- It is imperative to **dig at least 30" below the frost line** at the point of installation so there is room to install 12" x 36" x 36" of gravel underneath the installation point and still **locate the bottom of the Drinking Post 18" below the frost line.**

## Step 3:

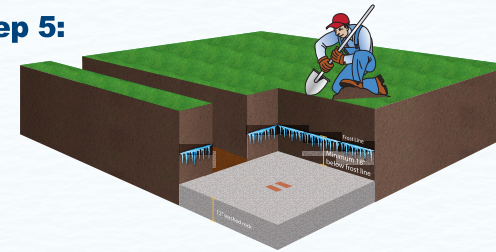


Put 12" of washed rock in the bottom of the hole.

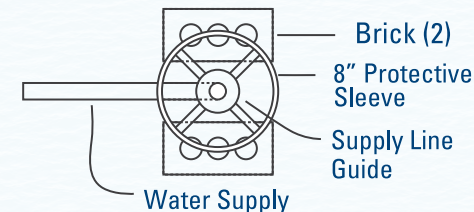
## Step 4:

- Remove Drinking Post completely from box.
- Remove 5" stainless steel nipple, included in the box.
- Wrap both ends of 5" stainless steel nipple with Teflon tape or coat with Teflon paste.
- Attach 5" nipple to 90° elbow fitting on bottom of Drinking Post. Stainless Steel nipple will feed through mouse hole opening on bottom of Drinking Post. This thread is a standard 3/4" pipe thread. This is the connection point for the incoming water supply line.

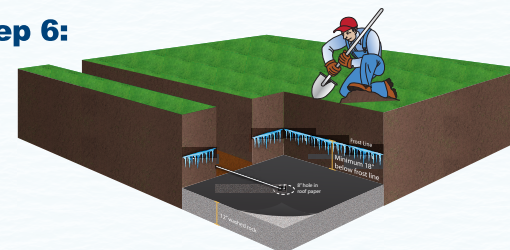
## Step 5:



- Place a cinder block or two bricks at the exact place you want to install the Drinking Post. The bricks/block should be flush with the top level of the gravel and positioned such that the open space in the bricks/block run vertical, allowing the water draining out of the Drinking Post to easily drain down through the bricks/block.
- If using two bricks they should be placed as illustrated, such that once installed the edge of the outer 8" protective sleeve rests securely on the bricks.



## Step 6:

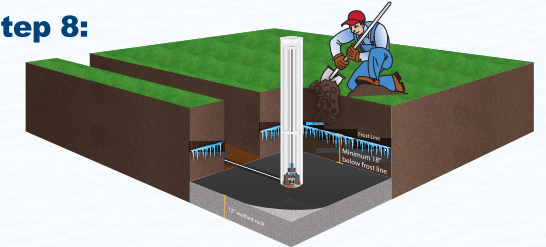


Cover the washed rock / drainage field with felt roofing paper or a thick non-woven geotextile fabric (landscaping fabric). **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT** as it will prevent the drainage field from plugging-up with dirt and not draining properly. Cut out and remove an 8" circle opening around where the Drinking Post will be installed.

## Step 7:

Flush water line thoroughly to remove all sand and debris.

## Step 8:



Stand the assembled Drinking Post upright resting the edge on the bricks in the leach field as pictured previously. Connect Drinking Post to the incoming water supply line.

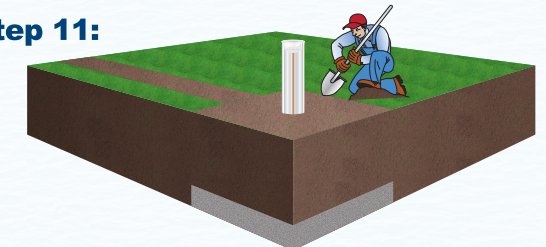
## Step 9:

Turn on the water and check the incoming water supply line connection for leaks.

## Step 10:

If within reach, push the paddle down to fill the bowl. The bowl should fill to the top in approximately 8 to 12 seconds and drain in approximately 30 to 45 seconds.

## Step 11:



It is now time to backfill the hole. Fill the first foot or so of dirt by hand (shovel) and pack down carefully to prevent puncturing the felt roofing paper or landscaping fabric.

For common part replacement guides, troubleshooting, and proper paddle tension adjustment, please visit: [www.drinkingpost.com/maintenance/](http://www.drinkingpost.com/maintenance/)