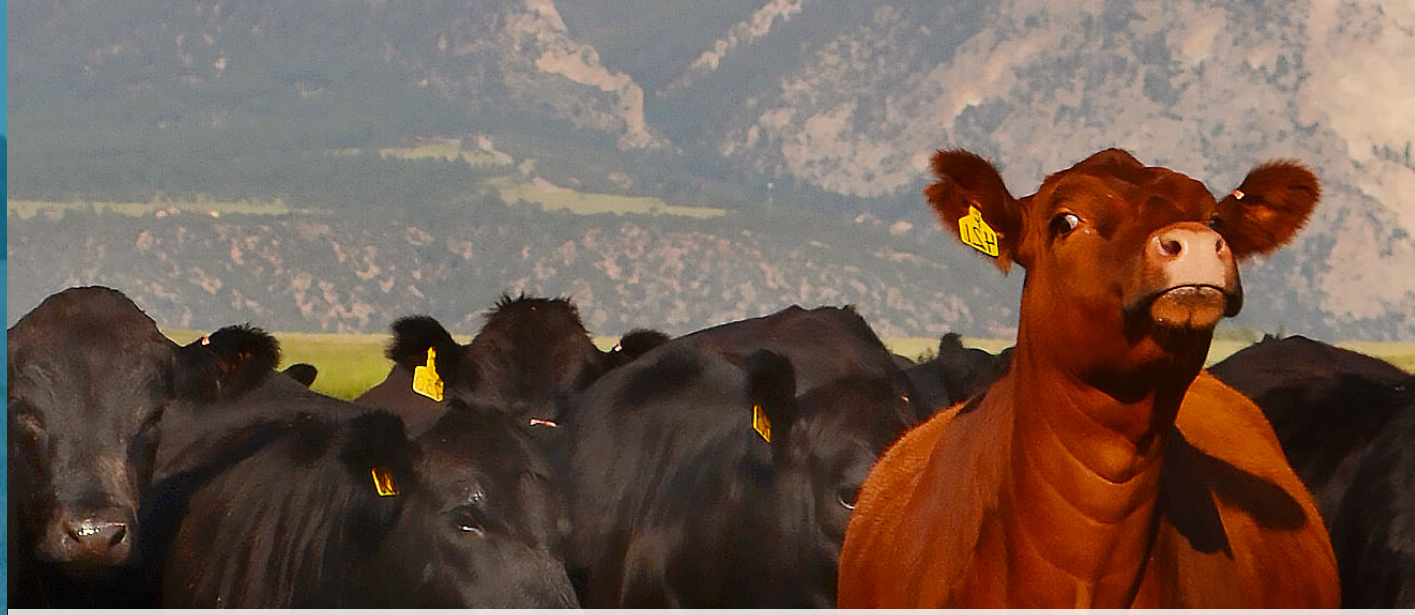
STEP 3

MAKE YOUR DOG A GOOD NEIGHBOR TOO

Whether outside at home or out for a walk, if your dog isn't fenced in or on a leash, it may be stressing local livestock. It's imperative to keep all pets under control when it comes to roaming.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Free-roaming dogs stress cattle. Dogs can chase cattle around a pasture for hours just for fun, but this dangerous for both the cow and the dog.
- Free roaming dogs approaching livestock can be dangerous, especially to new mother cows protecting their young during calving season. These interactions can lead to injuries or result in death to the calf or even the dog.
- Dogs accompanying joggers, walkers, hikers, and bicyclists can spook livestock, resulting in injury to animals.



PUT THIS INFORMATION INTO ACTION

Be a good neighbor by protecting our working lands with these three steps to keep Central Colorado green and beautiful. Want to help even more? Please pass this information on to YOUR neighbors.

CONTACT US

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HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO LOCAL RANCHERS

IN 3 SIMPLE STEPS

CENTRAL COLORADO CONSERVANCY
Protecting the Lands and Waters that Sustain Us

ENVISION CHAFFEE CO.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO OUR LOCAL RANCHERS

Did you know that ranching plays a vital role in keeping Central Colorado green and beautiful? It's true!

Ranching is also an integral part of our local history, tourism, economy, open landscapes, water, lifestyle, and culture. To sustain the quality of life that we all enjoy, we must work together to ensure local agricultural operations are protected and respected.

This brochure provides a simple 3-step process that you and your family can follow to help alleviate 3 of the biggest challenges local ranchers face as rural areas continue to grow and change.

STEP 1

UNDERSTAND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A STREAM AND A DITCH

The stream on your property may not be a stream at all - it could be an irrigation ditch. Many of the ditches in the Arkansas Valley were dug by hand in the late 1800's to transport water for agricultural use. Ditches are the arteries of our beautiful agricultural lands, so it's important to keep them free of debris.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Ditch easements are typically 15' on each side, or wide enough for maintenance, operation and repair.
- Ditch crossings like roads, driveways, bridges, culverts & fences cannot interfere with ditch operation and maintenance.
- New crossings, plants, or anything else that may obstruct the ditch cannot be placed in the easement without written consent from the ditch owner.
- Water in the ditch is owned by someone else and is not available for your use.
- 20' setbacks from the bank are required for buildings and overhangs.

STEP 2

HAVE A GOOD FENCE = BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Colorado is an open-range state, meaning livestock must be fenced out, rather than in. Property owners are responsible to erect and maintain fencing that keeps livestock out of their yards. If you don’t have a good fence, cattle could wander onto your lawn from nearby pastures or during cattle drives.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- Cattle drives are much easier for the cowboys when driveways are protected by fences, gates, and cattle guards.
- Fences keep livestock from trampling your lawn, eating your landscaping, or leaving behind cow pies.
- If you don’t have a proper fence and your property is damaged by livestock, the rancher is not liable for damage (yikes!).
- What does all this mean? It means that fences are good for everyone!