



Partners in stewardship of land
and water.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

contact:
Kristine Snowdeal
kris@valleystewardshipnetwork.org
608-637-3615

Outwinter with Bale Grazing to Improve Soil Health & Fertility

The Wallace Center Pasture Project will host a discussion and demonstration of the value of outwintering with bale grazing. Winter feed costs are a large proportion of total annual operation costs in livestock systems.



Outwintering livestock on pasture can be a cost saving practice when compared to drylot feeding. Winter feeding costs can be reduced by

providing forage within pastures during the winter months that will eliminate costs for manure removal from the drylot. The natural distribution of manure by animals while feeding in pastures helps to improve retention of nutrients, much of which are lost to volatilization, leaching, and runoff in a drylot before manure is removed. In addition to the superior fertilization benefits, manure that is deposited on the pasture over the winter months is much less prone to runoff than manure that is applied mechanically in the spring or fall when precipitation is high. The increase in nutrient availability and organic matter produced through an outwintering system has a positive effect on pasture yields in subsequent years and improves soil quality over time.

Join us Saturday, February 17th from 10am-12pm at S1847 Nestingen Rd. Westby, WI for a discussion and demonstration of the value in outwintering with bale grazing. For more information or to RSVP, please contact John Delaney at 608-637-3615 or john@valleystewardshipnetwork.org. Registration deadline is February 14th. Grilled Lunch will be provided.

###

Valley Stewardship Network is celebrating 17 years of land and water stewardship in the Kickapoo Valley and adjacent watersheds. Best known for its water quality monitoring programs, VSN also offers outreach and education programs to help farmers, landowners, residents, and visitors understand and support our local ecology for the health of our communities. More at www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org