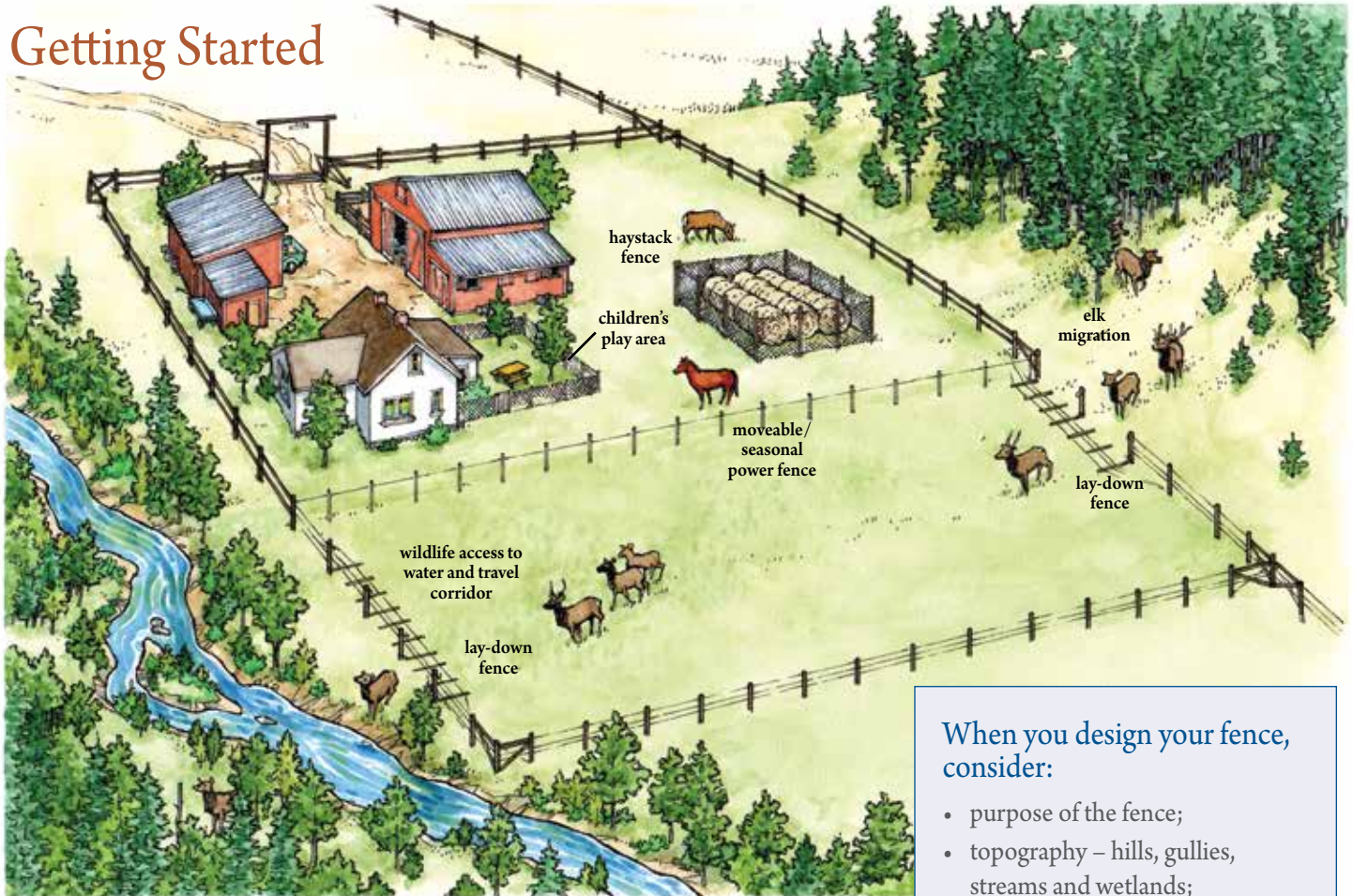


## Getting Started



*The best situation for wildlife is open habitat with no fences at all. Wherever possible, remove obsolete fences that are no longer needed.*

*Where you need to fence, less fence is better. Established fences can be modified to allow easier passage, and new fence can be designed with wildlife in mind.*

*To get started, consider your needs and create a plan. You can tailor any of the designs in this guide to your specific needs.*

*First consider these questions:*

**1. What is the purpose of the fence?**

Do you need to mark a boundary? Deter trespass? Enclose or exclude livestock? If your fence is for livestock, what kind, in what seasons, and for how long?

*Your purpose should determine your fence design and placement.*

**2. What is the topography?**

Are you fencing on hills, in rocky country where posts cannot be driven, or near or across streams or wetlands? *Design your fence to avoid creating traps for wildlife.*

**3. Which wildlife species are in your area?**

*Build fence or crossings that both young and adult animals can negotiate.*

**When you design your fence, consider:**

- purpose of the fence;
- topography – hills, gullies, streams and wetlands;
- species of wildlife present;
- daily or seasonal wildlife movements in the area;
- presence of water, food and cover for wildlife;
- presence of young animals.

**4. What are the daily or seasonal wildlife movements in the area?**

Do animals calve or nest nearby? Does wildlife migrate through to winter or breeding areas?

*Allow movement and access through natural corridors and habitats.*

MOST FENCES CAN BE DESIGNED OR MODIFIED TO ALLOW EASIER PASSAGE FOR WILDLIFE.