



Ultimate Drinking Post Waterer

Installation Instructions



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What You'll Need

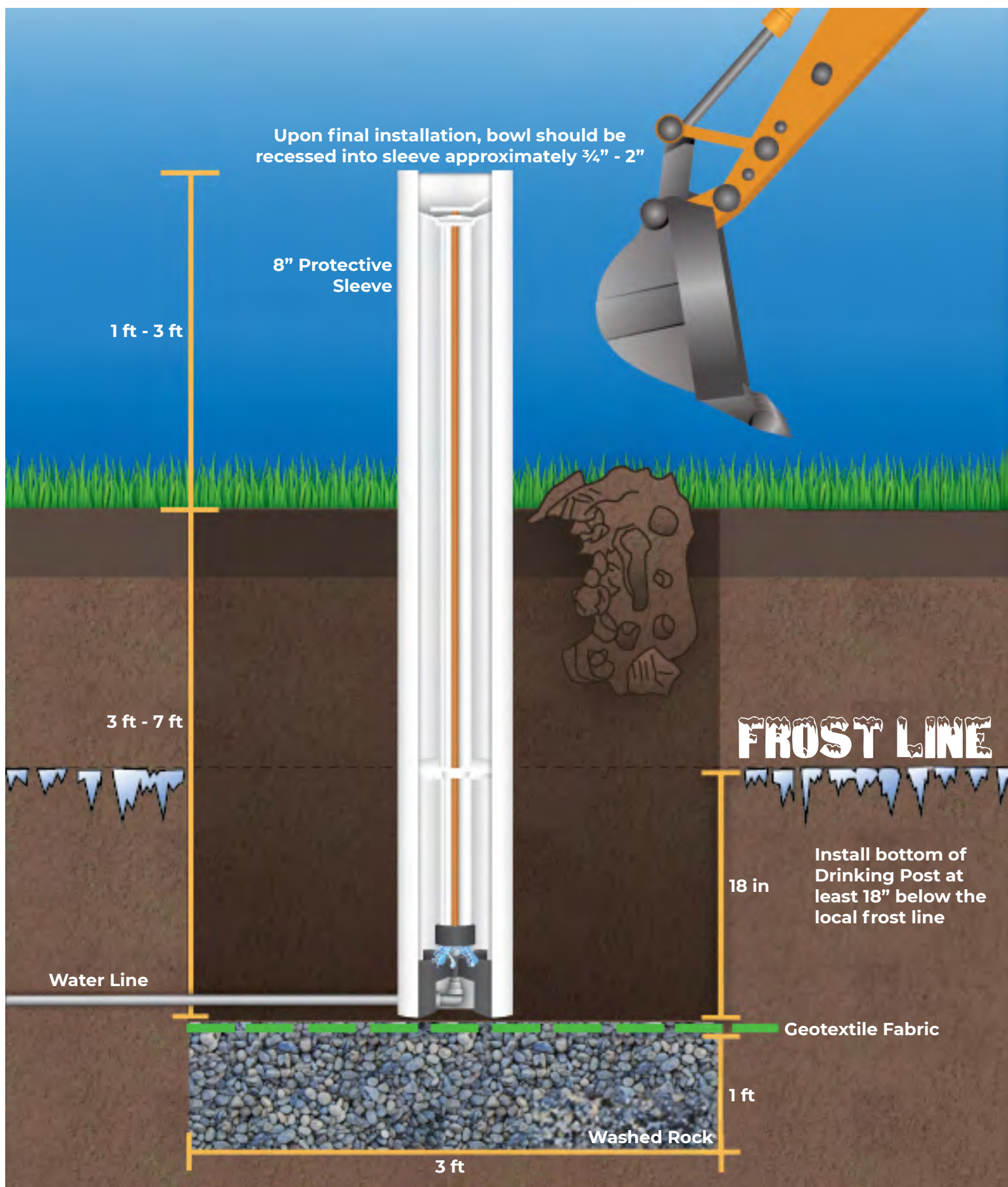
- Equipment to dig large hole
- 36" x 36" x 12" (9 cubic feet) washed rock (anything from pea-sized gravel to 1" river rock, you can buy it washed or hose it off before installation) - please note that more will be needed if installing in a hard soil area or soil with a high clay percentage
- Teflon tape (or Teflon paste)
- Cinder block (or 2 bricks)
- Felt roofing paper (or geotextile fabric)

Read This Before You Start

- The size of your Drinking Post depends on two things: (1) what type of animals you have and (2) the depth of your local frost line.
 1. The above-ground height will be determined by what type of animals you have. Here are the guidelines for above-ground height:
 - Pigs: 12" / 30.5 cm
 - Sheep & goats: 12"-18" / 30.5-46 cm
 - Cattle: 18"-24" / 46-61 cm
 - Alpaca: 24" / 61 cm
 - Horses: 30"-36" / 76-91.5 cm

NOTE: These guidelines are for adult livestock. If you have juveniles who will also be using the same Drinking Post, you will need to adjust the height accordingly so they can reach.
 2. The below-ground height will be determined by your location. Here are the guidelines for below-ground height:
 - 18-24" below the frost line is ideal, so an 8' post can sit 2.5' out of the ground in Eastern Ontario
 - Alberta and Northern Ontario should use a 10' Drinking Post

› Drinking Post size = shoulder height of smallest animal + local frost line depth + 18 inches
- The Drinking Post will release some water from the base as the bowl is filling.
- It is a great convenience to install a shut-off valve to each Drinking Post.
- You may hear a "rattle" when the check valve responds in coming/out-flowing water...this is normal.
- If you have hard soil, clay in your soil, etc. you should increase the size of your leach field. The Drinking Post uses a gravity-fed drain to drain the water after each use, so there must be adequate drainage for the Drinking Post to work properly. Your local outdoor plumber or excavator should have experience with the local soil conditions and should be able to recommend the how much larger to build your leach field.
- The Drinking Post may be installed anywhere there is a pressurized water supply line.
 - › No electricity is needed.
 - › **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: drinkingpost.com/troubleshoot
- For common part replacement guides, visit: drinkingpost.com/maintenance
- During an ice storm or ice building weather you may wish to pack Vaseline in the paddle hinges.
- During winter conditions or freezing temperatures, the paddle can be "stiff", difficult to depress, or frozen in place first thing in the morning. If this happens, 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.



Step 1: Dig & Install Water Line



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

Step 2: Enlarge Hole



- At point of installation, enlarge hole to be at least 3' wide x 3' wide and a **minimum of 30" below the 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 36" W x 36" L x 12" H of gravel underneath the installation point and still **locate the bottom of the Drinking Post 18" below the frost line**.

Step 3: Install Gravel



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

Step 4: Unbox Post

- Remove Drinking Post completely from box.
- Remove 5" stainless steel nipple, included in box.



- With the Drinking Post lying on the ground and completely unboxed, push the interior of the Drinking Post down through the top of the 8" protective sleeve such that the bowl is recessed $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 2" (see above photo) and the valve on the bottom of The Drinking Post is sticking out through the bottom of the 8" protective sleeve and is clearly visible and accessible.

Step 5: Connect Supply Line Guide to Valve

- Wrap both ends of 5" stainless steel nipple with two to three loops of Teflon tape or coat with Teflon paste.
- Thread the end of the supply line guide into the valve of the Drinking Post.
- **ONLY HAND TIGHTEN this connection!** Tighten only until this connection is snug. **DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN!**
- The reason this is so important is that when installation is complete, you will be able to remove and reinstall the Drinking Post from ground level without having to dig down to the connection point. Reasons you may want to do this include flushing debris from your water line and/or routine maintenance and troubleshooting. We don't anticipate you would need to do this anytime soon, but should the need arise it's a nice option to have.

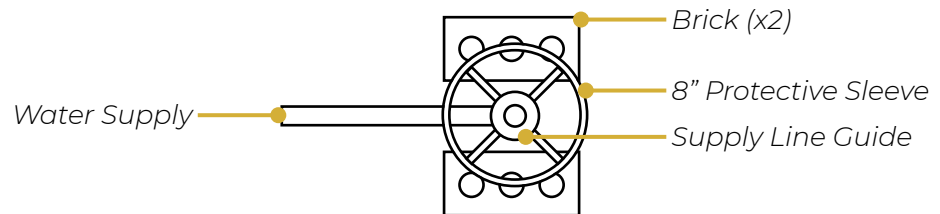
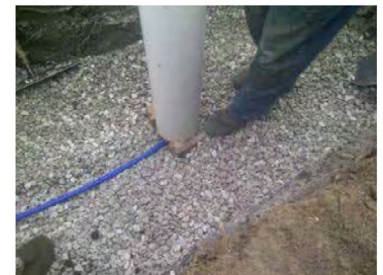
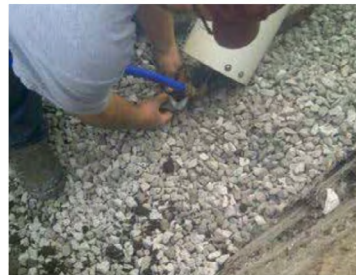
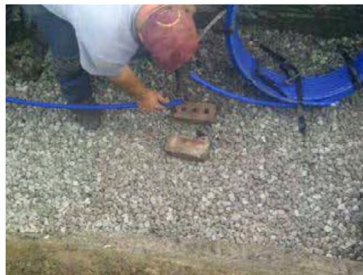
Step 6: Fasten Supply Line Guide to Sleeve

Remove the hardware inside the plastic bag (four screws and four fender washers) that is taped to the supply line guide. Slide the interior of the Drinking Post back inside the protective 8" sleeve. Line up the holes on the bottom of the protective sleeve and the supply line guide. Place one fender washer on each screw and fasten through the holes in the protective sleeve to affix the supply line guide to the protective sleeve.

Step 7: Prepare Post-to-Water Line Connection

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 $\frac{3}{4}$ " pipe thread. This is the connection point for the incoming water supply line.

Step 8: Lay Down Bricks or Block



- 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 water draining out of the Drinking Post to easily drain through the bricks/block.
- If using two bricks they should be placed as illustrated above, such that once installed the edge of the outer 8" protective sleeve rests securely on the bricks.

Step 9: Dig Trench From Water Supply Line to Bricks or Block

Dig a trench in the gravel bed from your incoming water supply line to the point of installation where you have placed the bricks. The trench should be roughly 5" deep to accommodate the length of the $\frac{3}{4}$ " supply line guide sticking out the bottom of the assembled Drinking Post.

Step 10: Cover with Roofing Paper or Geotextile Fabric

Cover the washed rock/drainage field with felt roofing paper or a thick non-woven geotextile (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. Also cut a seam where your incoming supply line trench is.



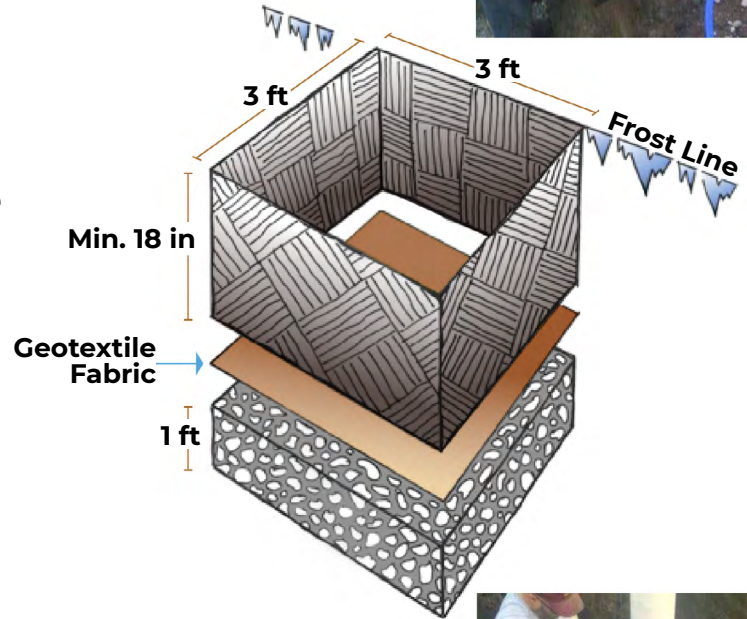
Step 11: Flush Line

Flush water line thoroughly to remove all sand and debris.

Step 12: Connect Post to Water Line

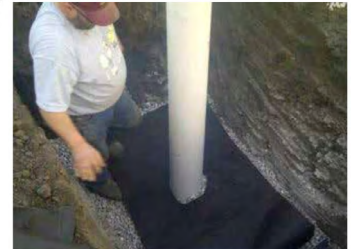


Stand the assembled Drinking Post upright resting the edge on the bricks in the leach field as pictured previously. Connect Drinking Post to your incoming water supply line. You may wish to stabilize it with some backfill at any point in the installation process. Just make sure not to cover up your connection point prematurely.



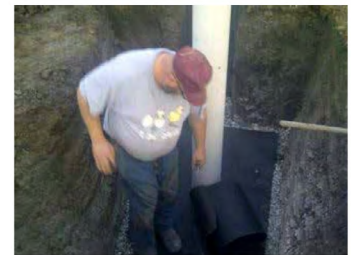
Step 13: Cover Water Line

Cover up the water line coming into the leach field with gravel and then place the roofing paper or geotextile fabric over the final section of your leach field.



Step 14: Test Bowl (if possible)

If you can reach it, you can now 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 15: Backfill Hole

Fill the first foot or so of dirt by hand (shovel) and pack down carefully to prevent puncturing the roofing paper or geotextile fabric and impairing the drainage area.

- **Please remember to maintain a good straight installation as you backfill!**
- **Hot tip!** Put an upside down bucket over your Drinking Post when backfilling to avoid getting dirt in the bowl.



Step 16: Adjust Paddle Screws (if needed)

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, loosen each of the 4 screws that holds the paddle in place. Paddles should be adjusted such that there is NO PRESSURE on the activating rod when not in use.



You're done! Enjoy your new Drinking Post.