

# Easy Turtle Fencing for Dummies

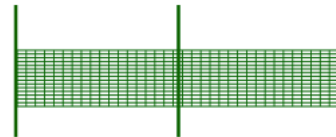
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The yellow belly slider turtles so common in St. James can quickly decimate a section of newly planted pond bank vegetation, including pickerelweed (right). Fortunately, these cute and friendly critters are not too savvy or mobile, so even to get to a tasty snack, they will likely not go around or under this simple barrier.



**The plan.** You will first cut the fencing to make sections that are X feet long (X is what you decide.) and 1.5 feet high. Then you will weave in three or more posts. Keeping the sections under 7 feet makes them easy to handle and place.



**Tool.** Ordinary scissors, period.

**What to buy.** Green plastic 25 feet x 36"-wide poultry fencing and green metal 36" plant props shown here. These were purchased at Lowe's Southport. (I recommend against using metal poultry fencing or wood posts.)

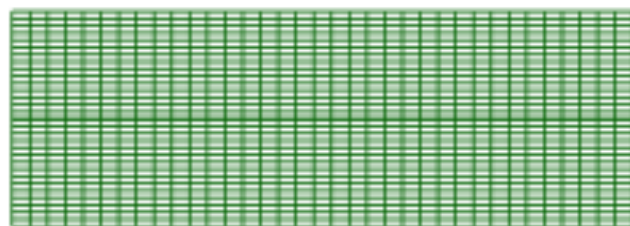
- You will be evenly dividing the fencing lengthwise (Step 2), so a 25-foot roll (the minimum, it seems) will yield 50 feet of fencing, which will extend more than 45 feet along the pond bank.
- You will be using at least three posts per each section of fencing.



## Step by step instructions.



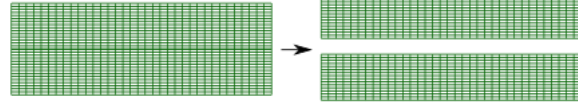
1. Using ordinary scissors, cut off X feet of fencing (whatever length you want).



X feet of fencing (36" wide)



2. To make two sections each 1.5 feet wide, fold the fencing in half



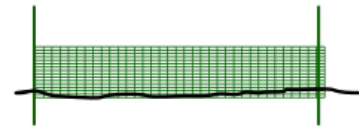
lengthwise and cut along that fold. (Of course, you could opt to cut into thirds to make fencing 12" high.)



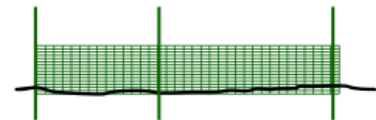
3. Weave the posts through both ends of the fencing. Don't weave in the middle post(s) yet.



4. Place the section into the pond bank. These thin metal posts are easy to poke deeply into thick mud and yet they stand firmly.



5. Weave in the middle post at a place that helps align the fence along the curve of the bank. If needed, weave in and place additional posts.



6. Position the bottom of the fencing so that it is well under water or partially lying on the ground. Unless you have mutant high-jumping turtles in your pond, the fencing does not need to be high. Just keep in mind that a rising water level lowers the effective height of the fence.

7. Multiple sections should overlap. Or, with a bit more effort, you can fuse neighboring sections by weaving a single post through neighboring ends.

