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Cutting Wood At 93 With Skidsteer-Mounted Chainsaw

At 93, James "Bud" Walsh still cuts firewood even though he doesn't have the balance and strength to run a chainsaw. He lets his skidsteer do the work with an attachment he designed and made with the help of a machinist.

"It's for big logs that are too big for the firewood processor to handle," Walsh says, adding he doesn't like to see trees on his property go to waste.

Hydraulics from the skidsteer run the 20-in. saw mounted on a quick-attach frame.

"The saw, which came off a firewood processor, floats up and down in the slot. The weight of the saw does the cutting," he says.

He points out that the saw is mounted on the side of the unit, not centered where a

flying, broken chain could hit the skidsteer operator.

Though slower than a man cutting by hand with a chainsaw, the skidsteer allows him to cut wood in 16-in. blocks. He cuts the wood about 3/4 of the way through so he doesn't cut into the ground and dull the chain. Then he turns the logs to finish the cuts.

Walsh spent about \$2,000 to build his skidsteer saw, including the hoses, hydraulics, Casappa hydraulic motor, and heavy-duty bar and chain.

"It works fine for me. It takes the place of a man. I'm not looking for speed. Just looking to salvage wood; I don't want to waste anything," Walsh says.

He invites anyone interested in making a



Skid loader-mounted chainsaw operates off the machine's hydraulics. It lets 93-year-old James Walsh still cut firewood now that it's difficult to handle a chainsaw manually.

similar piece of equipment to contact him.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, James (Bud) Walsh, 34 Locust St., Merimac, Mass. 01860 (ph 978 346-9244).

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