

Reader Letters



We made a 4-ft. square trailer 6 ft. longer by adding a 10-ft. tongue under the existing trailer tongue. This lets us haul our 16-ft. kayak and is also handy when we need to haul long 2 by 4's or 2 by 6's. We used a 10-ft. long rail from a sliding door and put a trailer hitch on one end, then used two bolts to secure it under the existing tongue. We can take it off quickly when it's not needed. We had to extend the wiring to reach the truck. (**Dan Barrett, Athens, Penn.**)



My neighbors, Jeff & Angie Ness, have an outdoor bathtub set up behind a pallet fence for cooling off on hot summer days. If they fill it up in the morning it will warm up enough by evening for a refreshing bath. (**Bernis Ingvaldson, Bagley, Minn.**)

I wonder if anyone has ever thought of using those big 10 by 30-ft. metal shipping containers to dry firewood or lumber faster. You could paint the containers flat black to absorb heat and stack the wood on pallets inside. Then you'd cut holes in one side of the container just above the bottom and cut holes in the opposite side just below the roof. That would naturally draw air up and through the container. You would

want to put wire over the holes to keep birds and critters out. I figure it would be 150 to 160 degrees inside. (**Jerry Jett, Greeley, Colo.**)



A friend gave me a Farmall with a plow to clear snow. I had an issue with water condensing in the oil every time I used it. To solve the problem, I installed a 400-watt block heater on a piece of 3/4-in. pipe threaded into the drain plug hole. I plug it in for about 2 hrs. and it boils all the water out. (**Rodney Corey, Johnstown, Ont.**)

I was having a little trouble moving gravel and dirt around my farm because of a back injury. I needed to be able to see the plow, grader blade, and tiller while running the lawn tractor, but I couldn't turn around. So, I modified a 1950 Murray garden tractor by putting the rear mount plate on the front and adding another frame and axle. I also added a Sears 605 wheelbarrow pan to the back. Now I can see it all right in front of me. (**Allan Wayne Bradberry, Clifton, Tenn.**)

I saw a letter in the last issue of FARM SHOW asking if there are any other charter subscribers to FARM SHOW around. I have been a subscriber since the beginning in 1977, and I still have a large pile of back issues. I will soon be 96 years old but still look forward to FARM SHOW arriving in the mail. (**Melvin Spears, Hedrick, Iowa**)



I added a wire shelf to the side of my Deere tractor to hold brake cleaner, glass cleaner, WD-40, grease, and other stuff. It's attached to the toolbox and is very handy. Keeps all that stuff out of the cab. (**David DeLong, Wichita Falls, Texas**)

My wife and I came home after dark and noticed that the bottom wire of my electric fence across the gravel road in front of

the house had slipped down close to the ground. So, I stopped the car, got out, and, touching only the insulator, slid the wire back up. All was good except that in the dark, I touched the top wire with my head and zap! The next thing I knew I was thrown 6 ft. out into the gravel road.

I shook it off, and except for a bit of a headache the next day, I was jumping in and out of the tractor while baling hay. That night, when I looked at my feet, I noticed that the skin on the bottom of my big toe was peeled off, right down to the red meat. The electricity had gone through my head and out through my toe, causing a third-degree burn, and I didn't feel a thing.

From now on I'll think differently when I hear the fence go "zap" on a cow's nose. (**Gary Lee Meeks, Virginia**)



I use old satellite dishes as covers for bird feeders. I drill holes around the edge so water can drip out. I also put tin on the pole so squirrels can't get up there. (**Pat Hiebert, Victoria, B.C.**)



I made a shield to keep snow and ice from building up on the drive belt and pulley on my Deere 44-in. snowblower. It was made by cutting one side and the bottom out of a Rubbermaid waste basket. The flap on top of the shield is a piece of rubber inner tube that articulates when the unit is raised or lowered. The shield fits tight and doesn't need to be fastened to the blower to stay in place. (**Ron Swenson, Otsego, Minn.**)



When I buy new boots, the first thing I do is to shorten each lace because they're always too long. The problem is that the end gets frayed. I solved that problem by putting shrink wrap for electric wiring

over the ends. No more tripping over long laces. (**John Rochester, Charlotte, N.C.**)



We always have a bunch of cats around to keep the rodents down. We feed them once a day so they're always a little hungry. To reward them, I set up a cat house inside a small shed that consists of a stock tank turned on its side with a 120-volt pig warmer under a couple of Rubbermaid bins that are stuffed with old blankets. I put an inline temperature Cube on the extension cord, so it only turns on when the temperature gets below 35 degrees. (**Gary Swensen, Yankton, S.Dak.**)

I found an easy way to measure post height when putting up chicken pens and other fence. If the post needs to be 4 ft. high, I hold a 4-ft. level on the side of the post and just pound on the post until it's even with the top of the level.

If you have bug problems, mix 1/4 dishwashing soap to 3/4 water and spray it on soft-bodied bugs and worms, ants, sawfly larvae – you name it.



This little pallet lean-to sits on 4 by 4's and the walls and roof are framed with used pallets. The metal on the roof was left over from another project.

Our pallet fence serves as a property line marker to keep snowmobiles from trespassing. It's held up by T-posts that are driven down through every other pallet.



We made a small shed to hold a variety of things by building walls from concrete blocks and setting an old truck topper that we got for free on top of the walls. Works great. (**Elias Wolf, Mancelona, Mich.**)

Easy Way To Send Your Ideas

How often do you see an idea when you're out and about and say, "Hey, that should be in FARM SHOW"? Next time that happens, just take out your phone and send us a photo or two. Just text them to us at **952-465-5019**. If you want to leave a voice mail explaining what you're sending, this phone is dedicated to FARM SHOW stories so it's on and available 24/7. No need to worry about disturbing anyone. Call or text day or night with your ideas, comments, or suggestions.



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