



Bill Wright says his new Front End Carrier has as much carrying capacity as a pickup and also doubles as a handy, elevated work platform.

## “Front End Carrier” Doubles As Elevated Work Platform

“It has as much carrying capacity as a pickup and also doubles as a handy, elevated work platform,” says Bill Wright, Carbondale, Ill., about his new Front End Carrier that replaces the bucket on front-end loaders equipped with quick-tach brackets.

The patented Front End Carrier measures 4 by 10 ft. with a 4-ft. high back. It’s built mostly from pressure-treated wood, with 1/4 and 3/4-in. powder coated steel supports. It consists of a solid wooden platform with 2 by 4’s on top and bottom to prevent warping. The back side is made from heavy-gauge welded wire so the operator can see inside.

The unit can be tilted to haul brush or other materials. A removable safety rail can be added to make a scaffold that you can use for pruning trees or working on buildings.

“Most people will find the carrier to be more useful than their loader bucket,” says Wright. “Unlike a loader bucket, the Carrier has no sides and can carry material that’s longer than its width, such as limbs, logs, lumber, poles, pipes, etc. It has 40 sq. ft. of floor space and can hold up to one ton of material spread across the floor. The only thing it can’t do is scoop like a bucket.

“Unlike a forklift or fork attachment, it has a solid deck and can carry items that aren’t on a pallet and are too small to be carried across forks, such as hay, fencing, fertilizer and seed bags, tools, firewood, and more. We supply a pair of 2-ft. long wooden ramps that make it easy to roll things up onto the platform. The ramps slip into slots alongside the platform for storage.”

Wright says he came up with the idea to help maintain his several acres of land.

“For years I used a pickup or trailer to haul away fallen limbs and trees. When I bought a new tractor with a front-end loader, I decided to build a platform for it to carry brush. My wife urged me to apply for a patent. Tragically, she died last year after a



Logs can be easily rolled onto carrier deck. The 4-ft. high back side is made from heavy-gauge welded wire so operator can see inside.



courageous battle with cancer, and I vowed that if I was awarded a patent I would form a company dedicated to her. I call the company Ovis Loader Attachments, Inc.”

Four different versions of the Front End Carrier are available. The 10-ft. wide model 700 sells for \$1,068 plus S&H. An 8-ft. wide model 600 sells for \$998 plus S&H.

Two build-it-yourself kits are also available and come with all the necessary pre-cut and pre-drilled steel supports, fasteners, and wire mesh used for the grill, but not the wood. Model 300 is for an 8-ft. wide carrier, and model 350 for a 10-ft. wide carrier. Each sells for \$757 plus S&H.

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Equipped with a big water tank, the elevated carrier works great to irrigate young trees.

## State-Of-The-Art Grate For Central Boiler Wood Furnaces

“Our new state-of-the-art grates for Central Boiler outdoor wood burning furnaces are designed to burn wood more completely and reduce the ashes to powder, which results in far less material to clean out. It elevates the wood off the furnace’s floor to make it burn more efficiently, which greatly reduces the amount of unburned charcoal,” says Edward Jewell, Outside Heating, Inc., Rocky Mount, Va.

The self-supporting grate requires no modification to the furnace and takes only about 30 min. to install. It consists of several components that lock together, including a pair of side rails that fit against the stove walls, a center I-beam, and a steel plate that lays on top of the I-beam and rails and locks them together. The grate slides in between the I-beam and rails. The system comes with its own scoop shovel.

“The slots in the grate are just less than 1 in. wide, narrow enough for powder to fall through but not charcoal,” says Jewell. “The grate takes up no more space than a load of compacted ashes would. But we’re keeping that space dry and free of ashes, so the fire can do a better job of heating the water. All you do is remove a few scoops of powder when needed. There’s so little powder that instead of needing a wheelbarrow to get rid of it, you’ll need only a bucket.

Jewell has sold and installed outside wood burning furnaces for more than 28 years, and in that time has handled most major brands. “When you install furnaces for that long, you find all kinds of ways to make them



Edward Jewell says his new grate for Central Boiler wood furnaces is designed to burn wood more completely and results in less material to clean out.

more user friendly,” he says. “We’ve tested our new grates for more than 5 years with local Central Boiler customers to get their feedback and have had an overwhelmingly positive response.”

The grates are designed for Central Boiler’s 5036, 6048, 7260 furnaces, as well as the Pallet Burner. Prices range from \$1,250 to \$1,860, depending on the furnace model.

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## Beer Keg Makes Hot Little Stove

Richard Spencer wanted a one-of-a-kind wood stove, and that’s what he got when he recycled an old beer keg and other parts he picked up. After a year of heating his small North Carolina shop, the stainless steel exterior still shines.

The exterior turns a gold color when there is a fire in it, he says, and the stainless steel throws out plenty of heat.

The keg’s openings helped him place the door and stovepipe. He used an angle grinder and a jigsaw with a metal cutting blade to cut out the door. He replaced the wooden plug with heavy gauge wire screen on the inside, with threaded rod, and an old doorknob to create a damper. The door opens and closes on a heavy brass hinge and latches on bolts and steel he fabricated. The spring handle off a charcoal pit screen doesn’t get hot.

Spencer says he used a cobalt drill bit to cut out a 3-in. chimney hole where the cap screwed in on the top of the keg. A friend made a heavy steel nipple that he inserted from the inside. The protruding bolts hold a 4-in. stovepipe in place.

“I think I will expand it to a 5-in. pipe to get a better draw,” Spencer says.

He adds that he cut and shaped firebricks to line the bottom and topped them with a



Richard Spencer used an old beer keg to build this wood stove. “I wanted something nobody else had,” he says.

section of heavy barbecue grill grate on bolt legs to hold the wood. Wood up to about 10-in. long fits in the keg stove.

“I wanted something nobody else had. It didn’t cost much to make — just time,” Spencer says.

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