

Two Anhydrous Tanks Converted Into Pressure Washer, Diesel Fuel Carrier

Fred Roth, Carlinville, Ill., converted two old anhydrous tanks for other uses on the farm. He turned a 500-gal. tank into a giant pressure washer that he uses to clean equipment right in the field. A smaller 250-gal. anhydrous tank was mounted to a portable diesel fuel tank so he can refuel tractors in the field.

The converted tanks mount together on a 2-wheel trailer that he pulls behind his pickup.

"The pressure washer is the handiest thing I've ever built," says Roth. "I put 120 lbs. of pressure in the tank so it has plenty of cleaning power. I often use it right out in the field to clean the radiator on our Caterpillar dozer. We have an earlier model Cat dozer, one where the air is forced forward into the radiator which causes dirt to build up in it. We also use it to clean our tractors and trucks."

To convert the tank to hold water, Roth simply hooked up a water hose to the liquid side

valve on the tank and then fitted the tank with an air valve. A small compressor is all that's needed to pressurize it.

The smaller anhydrous tank carries diesel fuel under very low pressure. It's fitted with a big diameter, 20-ft. long hose to transfer fuel to the tractor. Fuel is pumped through a large see-through fuel filter as it enters the hose. An air hose runs from the "vapor" side of the 500-gal. tank to an air valve on the fuel tank. The air pressure pushes the fuel out of the tank.

"It holds enough fuel to keep two tractors going for 2 or 3 days before we have to take the tank home and refill it," says Roth. "The valves have a 1-in. outlet so it takes only about 3 minutes to fill a 30-gal. fuel tank. There's less than 5 lbs. of pressure in the fuel tank. The tank works great because I don't have to do any pumping by hand or rely on a 12-volt battery.



Roth uses his anhydrous tank pressure washer to clean off radiators in the field and his anhydrous tank fuel carrier to keep two tractors going for two or three days.

"I paid \$25 for the big anhydrous tank and already had the smaller tank. My total cost including tanks, hoses, and fittings was about \$100."

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Put together for about \$20, the burner produces a flame 2 ft. long and 12 in. in dia.

Hand-Held Weed Burner Doubles As Shop Heater

"It works good for melting ice and to burn weeds in roadside ditches. I also use it inside a 55-gal. steel drum to heat my shop in winter," says Michael Munson, Pasco, Wash., who made a 4-ft. long, hand-held weed burner.

A 1/2-in. dia. steel pipe serves as the wand. A 4-ft. long acetylene hose off an old cutting torch hooks up to one end of the wand and feeds propane into it. The "flame thrower" at the other end of the wand is a 2-in. dia., 5-in. length of car exhaust tubing.

To put the wand together Munson drilled a small hole into one end of a short steel plug, then threaded the plug onto one end of the 1/2-in. threaded pipe union. He then welded a 3/4-in. threaded union onto the 1/2 by 4-in. wand that allows him to screw in a Teflon-coated, 1/4-turn ball valve that's mounted at the end of the hose. A "P.O.L." fitting adapts the valve to the propane tank. He cut four notches in a 1/2-in. dia. washer, slid it 2 in. in from the end of the 1/4 by 4-in. wand, and welded it on. Then he welded the 5-in. long cylinder to the washer.

"It works as well as commercial models and cost very little to put together," says Munson. "My total cost was about \$20. Most of that was for the P.O.L. fitting and the 1/4 turn ball valve. Commercial models of comparable capacity sell for much more.

"I use it a lot with my garden tractor to burn weeds in roadside ditches. I strap the propane bottle onto a trailer and operate the burner from the tractor seat. A 20-lb. LP tank works great. I usually make two passes to kill weeds. The first time I 'haze' the weeds in order to stop photosynthesis. Then I go back a week later to finish them off. It's very effective. As the 5-in. long cylinder heats up, it acts like the venturi on a carburetor and pulls air in through the notches on the washer. By barely cracking the lever on the 1/4 turn ball valve I can get a flame that's 2 ft. long and 12 in. in diameter. Yet the wand pipe never gets hot.

"It also works great for melting ice and thawing out pipes.

"To use it to heat my 24 by 31-ft. shop, I cut off the lid, then cut off the top third of the barrel and welded the lid back on. I punched a hole in the side of the barrel to insert the end of the wand. A box window fan blows heat off the barrel. I set the barrel in the middle of the shop and mount it on four cinder blocks in order to get it up off the floor.

"I welded a 1-ft. length of 1 1/2-in. dia. steel pipe onto the top of the lid to serve as a vent."

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Feed Bunks Made From Plastic Barrels

Bud Braisher, Parson, B.C., used 45-gal. plastic barrels to build his own low-cost feed bunks for less than \$50 apiece.

"I use them to feed beef cows. They're easy to make, durable, and light enough in weight that I can easily move them around by hand," says Braisher.

Each bunk is 12 ft. long and 3 ft. wide and consists of three half-barrels bolted together end to end within a wooden framework. He used an angle grinder to cut the barrels in half, bolted them together end to end, and then bolted 2 by 4 wooden boards onto the sides. He also used 2 by 4's to make the legs and skids.

"I've built two bunks so far, and plan to build some 16-ft. long ones this year," says Braisher. "They won't rot like wooden bunks and are easier to clean out in winter.

"I buy the barrels at auctions and farm supply stores. The barrels originally contained chemicals and are pre-cleaned when I buy them. They sell for \$5 to \$10 apiece. My to-



Braisher's low-cost feed bunks are made from three half barrels bolted together.

tal cost for each bunk is about \$50."

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Powerful Hand-Held Magnets

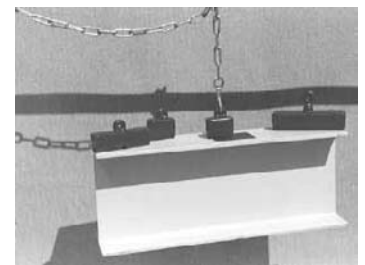
You'll like these small but powerful hand-held magnets that have up to 300 lbs. of pull.

The magnets come in 50, 150, and 300-lb. pull sizes and have a screw eye welded on top of the magnet housing that can be hooked to a chain.

"They have many different applications and are built with quality," says Ralph Gwynn, Durable Ralph, Inc., Harrison, Ark. "We've been selling them in local hardware stores for years but are just now marketing them nationally. These magnets are better quality than any similar magnet on the market today.

"They're handy for picking up nails from driveways and work sites and for picking up shop tools. When you're welding they can serve as a third hand by holding the object in place. They also work great for retrieving lost lures, fishing rods and reels, etc. We also offer a powerful 20-in. wide magnet that's mounted on wheels, with the magnet suspended from the axle. A bolt-on T-bar handle allows you to push or pull the unit for cleaning up construction sites, roofing projects, driveways, and many other farming and industrial applications. Magnet height is adjustable."

Gwynn cautions that the powerful magnets



The company's 50-lb. pull magnet is shown holding an 8-in. wide, 23-in. long steel I-beam, as well as all three magnet models.

must be kept away from computers and other electronic equipment.

The 50-lb. magnet sells for \$13.95; the 150-lb. magnet for \$19.95; and the 300-lb. magnet for \$35.95. The magnet on wheels sells for \$129.95. All postage is prepaid for delivery in the continental U.S. and Canada. All other countries add applicable S&H.

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