



Two-wheeled trailer is built on chassis of an old manure spreader. Wood is pulled to the back by a pair of stainless steel cables that wrap around a drum at back of trailer.

Wood-Hauling Trailer Dumps Itself

Ken Ryan heats his house with a wood-burning furnace in his basement. It saves him a lot of money but hauling wood is a winter-long job.

He made it a lot easier, though, by building a self-unloading wood-hauling trailer. It dumps a load of wood directly into a steel chute that leads down to the basement.

The two-wheel trailer is built on the chassis of an old manure spreader and has metal sides and a metal bottom. An L-shaped metal plate, with nylon skid shoes under it, moves from the front of the trailer to the back, pushing

off the load. It's pulled to the back by a pair of stainless steel cables that wrap around a drum at the back of the trailer. The dump is chain-driven by a small hydraulic motor under the back corner of the trailer. A spool valve mounted on the back of the trailer controls it.

"It's a really slick way to handle a lot of wood. It makes my winter so much better," says Ryan. "The box will hold about two face cords of wood."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ken Ryan, 221 Ryan Rd., Oxford, N.Y. 13830.



An L-shaped metal plate, with nylon skid shoes under it, moves from front of trailer to back to push off the load.

VW Work "Truck"

My friend, John Tierney, has been a contractor in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area for nearly 30 years. He's a guy who likes to do things a little differently than everyone else and he recently proved it by converting a VW bug into his work "truck".

He installed hitches on the front and rear and then welded together a roof rack that fits on the hitches. The rack lets him carry ladders, plywood, and other equipment on top of the car. The rear supports on the rack curve outward so he can still get into the trunk (unlike the original beetle, the new VW's have the engine in front).

John says he gets a lot of attention and his customers get a kick out of the car.



Since he has most of his lumber and supplies delivered, he doesn't have to carry a lot of material on his "truck".

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Tierney, Minneapolis, Minn. Mark Newhall, Editor



Two-wheeled machine has a log loading ramp on front and a 15-ft. trailer on back that's dumped by a 5-ton wagon hoist. Rear tailgate also loads wagon box with wood.

"Firewood Machine" Splits, Loads, And Hauls Wood

"I've eliminated nearly all the back-breaking work involved with splitting logs up to 3 ft. in diameter," says Carroll Crum, Littlestown, Penn., who came up with a nifty firewood processing system that splits, loads, and hauls wood.

The two-wheeled machine consists of a splitter with a log loading ramp on front and a 15-ft. trailer on back that's dumped by a 5-ton wagon hoist.

Logs are lifted onto the splitting table by a side-mounted loading platform. A 4-way wedge, powered by two hydraulic cylinders, splits the log. The pieces fall back into the trailer. The wood is unloaded out the back by raising the splitter unit up out of the way, then opening the tailgate and raising the trailer.

Hydraulic power is provided by a 23 gpm, pto-operated pump that operates off Crum's 35 hp Case VAC tractor.

"My out-of-pocket expense was about \$2,000 including new hydraulic cylinders, valves, and pump," says Crum. "I built it because I'm in the process of clearing about 10 acres of woods that have 80-ft. tall hickory

trees up to 3 ft. in diameter. I got tired of always having to bend over to lift the big logs onto a splitting table. I looked at several commercial firewood processors, but couldn't find anything I liked. Most commercial models are stationary and can handle only straight logs, whereas the four-way wedge on my machine can handle crooked or knotty wood. The wedge mounts on a steel track and can be raised or lowered by a small hydraulic cylinder at the back. If the wood is crooked or has a lot of knots in it that are hard to split, I can raise the wedge above the knots.

"I drive my firewood handling machine right into the woods. I stack the logs in a pile and then use a chain saw to cut them into 30-in. lengths. Then I roll the logs onto the loading ramp.

"The tailgate on back of the trailer is fitted with a loading ramp that I use to load smaller chunks of wood into the trailer. It tilts back hydraulically to dump into the trailer box."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Carroll Crum, 111 Harney Rd., Littlestown, Pa. 17340 (ph 717 359-5834).



Wood is unloaded out the back by raising splitter unit up out of the way, then opening the tailgate and raising the trailer.

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