

**Floyd Verploeg, Lavilla, Iowa:** "I take magnets out of old microwaves for use around the shop. There are two strong magnets in every microwave. Be sure to short circuit the capacitor before working on it because it can still store high voltage. After you take out the magnets, you can put the cabinet back together and you'll have a nice mouse and waterproof storage cabinet."

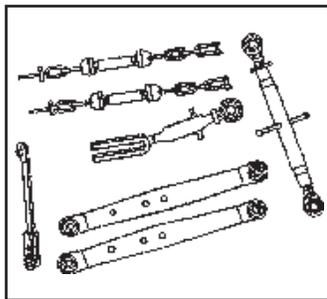
"I use the magnets to pick up spilled nuts, bolts, nails and other parts. I just put the magnet in a plastic bag, pick up the spilled parts, and then turn the plastic bag inside out and the parts are neatly stored in the bag."

**John Lindemer, Ind.:** Several years ago, a neighbor of John's had problems with frozen pipes. The problem was compounded by the fact that the frozen pipes were made of pvc instead of copper so he couldn't use his welder to thaw them out. He came up with another idea.

He took a windshield washer pump off one of his vehicles and got a 12-volt battery. Then he heated up a big bucket of hot salty water. He proceeded to feed a small piece of rubber tubing into the end of the frozen pipe, pumping in the warm water using the washer pump. It worked great. He was able to open up the pipe, no problem. He's not sure if he needed the salt but figured that's what you use to melt ice on steps so maybe it would help.

**James Weaver, Weaver's Repair, 9507 Forest Ridge Rd., Shippensburg, Penn. 17257 (ph 717 477-9332):** Weaver's Repair specializes in new and used parts for compact utility-sized tractors. He recently started selling brand new aftermarket cylinder heads for Kubota V1902 and V1702 engines. "These engines are found in skid loaders and many other machines. We're selling a bare head with no valves for just \$595. That's a huge savings over OEM prices and they come with a 6-month warranty. Dealers are welcome."

Weaver has another new product that he thinks is a real winner. "Someone robbed the 3-pt. hitch off one of our compact tractors and we couldn't justify spending \$400 to \$600 for a new OEM hitch kit. So we



came up with our own and it worked so well we've decided to offer it for sale. It's a 7-piece kit that sells for just \$189. It'll fit Deere, Ford, Kubota, Yanmar, and many other compact tractors. A larger kit for bigger tractors is also available."

**Robert Dixon, Oxford, N.C.:** "I bought a used Allis Chalmers 8030 4-WD tractor from the early 1980's. We got it cheap because it was smoking quite a bit, although it seemed to run okay. I figured I could rebuild it and come out okay."

"After we got it home we did everything under the sun short of rebuilding the engine, including replacement of the injectors and rebuilding the pump. It still smoked like a freight train and we just couldn't figure out why."

"I finally talked to a very knowledgeable diesel mechanic at a local shop to see what he thought. He suggested we check to make sure the injectors were installed correctly. We went to a neighbor who also had an 8030 and discovered that his injectors were turned 180° from ours. Our injectors were still installed exactly as they were when we bought the tractor. But apparently they were wrong. It's confusing because on the 7010 and 7020 Deeres, the injectors can be installed either way. But on the 8030 they can't."

"Once we got the injectors turned around, the tractor ran like a top with no smoke. What's more, it had 35 percent more horsepower. We got a heck of a tractor for a bargain price."



Car wheels make nifty service ramps, says May.

## Do-It-Yourself Car Ramps

It took Jacob May only about an hour to make a set of portable car ramps, using nothing but his cutting torch, welder and a bit of scrap metal.

May welded pieces of 1-in. thick flat steel tubing to a pair of 15-in. car wheels.

"The car ramps you can buy are made out of sheet metal, so they're not that safe," May explains. "Because the rims have a lip on them, the vehicle's tire fits inside the lip and

you don't have to worry about your vehicle rolling."

May cut a curve into the flat tubing with a cutting torch and then welded them to the rims. "They were real simple to make and they work really well. You can easily move them around your shop as needed."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jacob May, HC 53, Box 21, Interior, S. Dak. 57750 (ph 605 455-2425).



Tires settle in securely on top of wheels.

# FARM SHOW

## Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

*Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it. These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or E-mail us at: Editor@farmshow.com.*

Mark Newhall, Editor



**Pete Peters, Osler, Sask.:** "I have come up with a stand that makes it easy to pour oil or other substances easily. It consists of an old wheel rim with a piece of steel pipe welded onto it. The strap iron bracket on top is made to hold a 5-gal. bucket. You can control the pouring with one hand, which leaves the other hand free to steady the container you're pouring into."

**John Martens, Sanford, Man.:** "I made a portable air-tool oiler out of some angle-iron and an old steering wheel. The wheel can act as a base or a handle."



black and attached an old set of automobile gauges for amps, temperature and oil. It was pretty easy and they work just as well as the originals."

**Lawson Products, Inc., 1666 E. Touhy Ave., Des Plaines, Ill. 60018 (ph 800 448-8985; website: www.lawsonproducts.com):** Lawson products has come up with a grinding disc that has three holes in it. When



the disc is in motion the holes give you an accurate view of exactly what you are grinding. The company says it's great for cleaning up welds and other jobs where it helps to see what you're doing.

**Charles Gerdeman, Delphos, Ohio:** "After buying a used Deere semi-mounted sickle mower, I discovered that all the universals at the gearbox end were made wrong. To solve the problem, I used a torch to heat up the joints and bent them at more of a 90-degree angle. As a result, the mower doesn't vibrate as much so the bolts don't loosen up. I haven't broken a sicklebar since I made this modification."

**Eric Webster, Lansdowne, Ontario:** "I made the frame of this hydraulic press out of old bulldozer parts. It runs off tractor hydraulics and has a 'bed' made out of a 6-in. wide, 3/4-in. thick steel plate. The 6-in. dia. hydro-

