

Reader Recipes

We're looking for unusual, innovative, or just plain good-tasting recipes. If you have a favorite you'd like to share, send to: Reader Recipes, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044.

Simple Syrup

Place equal parts of sugar and water in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil and stir until sugar is dissolved. Cool to room temperature. Pour into jar or sealed container and refrigerate. Use to sweeten coffee, tea or other cool summer drinks.

Sweet & Sour Cabbage

4 cups cabbage
2 cups apples
2 tbsp brown sugar
2 tsp vinegar
1 tsp salt
3 slices crisp bacon
1/2 cup water

Fry bacon in 11-in. skillet. Shred cabbage, peel and slice apples thin. Pour in skillet on top of bacon. Cook 30 min. over medium heat. Stir several times.
Serves 6.

Mice Be Gone

To get rid of mice: About once a month, mix a half gallon of apple cider vinegar with 2 gal. of water and sprinkle it around the outside of the house.
Milton Ammel, Parker, Kansas

Jack Daniel's Marinade

1/4 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup dijon-style mustard
1/4 cup minced green onions and tops
1/4 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
1 tsp salt
Dash of Worcestershire sauce
Pepper to taste

Combine all ingredients. Blend well. Use to marinate shrimp or scallops for 1 hr. or beef, chicken or pork in the refrigerator overnight. Use to baste the shellfish or meat as it is grilled or broiled. Makes about 1 1/4 cups.



Refrigerator looks like a standard red and black toolbox, complete with metal door pulls. It looks great in a shop or garage.

Shop Refrigerator Looks Like A Toolbox

Craftworks sells a refrigerator designed to go into a shop or garage.

It looks like a standard red and black toolbox, complete with metal door pulls.

The refrigerator is 33 1/2 in. tall (or 37 in. on wheels), 18 5/8 in. wide and weighs 55 lbs. It has 4.4 cu. ft. of storage space.

A can stacker makes grabbing your favorite beverage easy and you can put 2-liter bottles in the door.

It even has a lock to keep outsiders from "stealing" your favorite foods. It's also energy efficient with an auto defrost system.

Sell for \$299 plus \$55 S&H.
Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Intirion, 10 Walpole Park South, Walpole, Mass. 02081 (ph 800 577-8041; www.craftworksfridge.com).

How They Got High-Speed Internet

Brothers Clair and Warren Wilson's farm and manufacturing businesses are located down along the Illinois river bottom. But, Clair's house is up on a bluff high above the river.

With business booming for their custom-fabrication business, they needed high-speed internet at their shop as well as at their house but they couldn't get a signal down below the bluffs.

Then, someone gave Clair an 80-ft. antenna tower. "To make it high enough to clear the tree line, Clair built a 20-ft. base from used irrigation pipe and angle iron," says wife Claudia. The tower sits on top of the 250-ft. bluff and catches the internet signal broadcast from a water tower almost 10 miles away. The signal is then transmitted by cable to both shop and home computer.

"We now have fast internet access at both places," Clair says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clair Wilson, 34 Hillview Rd., Winchester, Ill. 62694 (ph 217 742-3918; cwcw@wilsonfarms.ws).

The 80-ft. antenna tower sets on a 20-ft. base made from used irrigation pipe and angle iron, making it high enough to receive internet signals broadcast from a water tower almost 10 miles away.



Virtually Indestructible Mailbox

If hooligans vandalize your mailbox on a regular basis, you might need an "invincible mailbox."

Cress Ridge Machine sells mailboxes made from 1/4-in. mild steel that weigh 50 lbs. They're 18 in. long by 10 in. sq. with a piano hinge on the aluminum front cover. They're also primed for painting.

"Customers can't believe it's that heavy," says Tammy Egli, office manager. "When vandals spot the mailbox they just keep on going." Sells for \$95 plus S&H.

The company also sells a mirrored stainless steel mailbox that's 10 in. long, 9 in. wide and 12 in. tall. It sells for \$75 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cress-Ridge Machine, Inc., 3504 Bleams Road, New Hamburg, Ontario, Canada N3A 2J7 (ph 877 324-4445 or 519 662-1952; fax 519 662-1941; tammy@cress-ridge.com; www.cress-ridge.com).



Mailbox is made from 1/4-in. mild steel and weighs 50 lbs.

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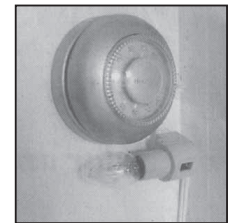
Ronald Pesha, Lubec, Maine, discovered a nifty and inexpensive trick that keeps his house cool while he sleeps and warms it up before he gets out of bed in the morning. All without paying for an expensive programmable thermostat.

All he used was a nightlight, timer and extension cord.

Pesha plugged the nightlight into the extension cord and mounted it just below the thermostat. Then he plugged the cord into a wall timer that plugs into an outlet.

Pesha turns on the nightlight and sets the timer for about a half hour before he rises. This tricks the thermometer into believing the house is warmer than it is and not turn on. The timer turns off the lamp just before Pesha gets up which lets the thermostat cool enough so that the heater turns on before he gets up in the morning. He enjoys waking up to a warm house as well as the energy savings.

Excerpted with permission from *Countryside* (www.countrysidemag.com).



Programmable thermostat is made from a nightlight, timer and extension cord.



Shepardson's grandfather used to feed the family Christmas tree from a bucket. She got the idea of making the bucket look like a gift.

Tree Waterer Is Disguised As Gift

The Ever-Green Christmas Tree Watering System is a 2.7-gal. plastic water reservoir that's cleverly disguised as a gift under the tree. It automatically keeps your Christmas tree stand filled with fresh water, thanks to a plastic tube that siphons water into the stand.

This patent-pending device eliminates the need to crawl down under the tree with a pitcher of water.

To make it work, you initially elevate the full reservoir for about 20 seconds. This gets the water flowing into the tree stand and it continues until the water finds equilibrium between the two connected bodies of water. When the tree "drinks" water, it lowers the pressure in the tree's water supply, causing more water to exit the tube.

The product retails for \$19.99, plus shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ever-Green Watering Systems, 1011 Adams St., Denver, Colo. 80206 (ph 303 320-4100; heather@watertree.com; www.watertree.com).