Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts



on the lid next to the light and stay warm even in the coldest weather. It makes a nice, cozy perch for him."

Bill Reeks, Cromwell, Ky.: "I have arthritis so I always have to find a better way to do things. I've discovered that using a bar or pipe clamp with my drill makes it much easier to



drill through heavy steel. The whole idea works similar to a drill-press. The drill gets a helping hand from a pipe clamp, which adds the necessary pressure for the bit to cut. I just slowly tighten the threaded part of the clamp. A length of wire around the drill and pipe clamp helps to steady the drill motor and clamp.

"Want an easy way to salvage the last few drops of motor oil from its container? Find a large bottle with a neck large enough for the neck of the 1-quart oil bottle to fit inside it and set it upside down to drain.

"When I need a short piece of small wire I use a paper clip. They're cheap, readily available, and provide the size you need when other sources aren't there. A jumbo size clip will provide 6 3/8 in. of wire.

"Attaching a paper clip to the end of a roll of tape makes the tape end easy to find and use when needed. It saves time, frustration and tape, as some folks fold under the end of the tape but then that piece is no longer usable.



"To place a screw or nail into an inaccessible area where it's difficult to hold, loop a string through a soda straw and around the screw or nail. Then hold the two ends of string and place the object."

Bayard E. Young, Elkwood, Va.: "Three of the floor chain guides on my New Holland 847 round baler wore all the way through due to the chains wearing on them. The problem is worst on the middle guides, which bear most of the bale's load. The chains wears grooves in the guides and then through the baler floor. Eventually they get hung up and stop turning, which jams up the machine big time. We kept breaking shear pins, and even

tually the main shaft that operates the apron chains broke. I ended up having to replace all seven of the chain guides on my baler.



"Unfortunately these guides aren't as easy to change as the manual describes. You have to crawl under the baler, where there's going to be an accumulation of rotten hay and rust to deal with, to unscrew the bolts that hold the guide channels. Someone will have to help hold the bolts while you remove the nuts.

"So if you have a baler with chains instead of belts, my advice is to examine the guides and if they look like they're wearing, add hard surface welding material to fill in the grooves."

W.A. Gibbs, Elmwood, Tenn.: "When I lost the ignition key to my 1958 Chevrolet 2-ton dump truck, I was able to come up with a simple, low-cost solution without ever touching the old ignition switch. It was a lot easier than putting in a new ignition switch, and cheaper.

"The truck has an external resistor mounted separately on the engine firewall. I bought a heavy duty industrial type ignition switch which came with one ignition terminal and one battery terminal, and that's all I used from it. Starting from the battery side of the new ignition switch, I ran a no. 10 wire straight back to the battery. From the ignition side of the new switch I ran another wire straight to the feed-in side of the truck's ballast resistor.

"I used the same idea on my 1961 Deere 1010 dozer, except that on the dozer I installed an extra switch. I still use both switches. With the original switch I had trouble burning up ignition points. Now the dozer doesn't burn points any more. Whenever I start the dozer I turn both switches on, because the old switch has a gauge on the dash that shows me the switch is on. Turning the old switch won't shut off the engine, but turning the new switch on will stop it.

"I paid \$16 for the ignition switch that I used on the truck and less than \$25 for the switch that I used on the dozer. Now both vehicles start up like they were new."

Dale Hazelton, New Hampton, N.Y.: "To make cleaning riding mower decks an easier job, I drive the mower up onto my utility trailer, which has an open center. I used to drive the mower onto planks supported by concrete blocks, but this way is much safer."

Bruce Johnson, Osage, Minn.: "I use a wood splitter to break the bead seal on tires. I just place 2 by 6 wooden blocks on both sides of the tire to keep the wedge and back plate from coming into contact with the wheel

"When tapping holes in limited spaces I put a nut on the drive end of the tap I'm using. I place the tap on a piece of soft metal (brass or aluminum) and tap on the nut with a hammer until it's flush with the square drive end of the tap. Then I drive the tap with a socket wrench."

Don Wheeler, Columbiaville, Mich.: "To remove broken bolts in aluminum, I spray the bolt with Gibbs penetrating oil and let it stand overnight. In most cases the bolt will come right out."

Flameless Way To "Solder" Copper Pipe

Soldering copper pipe could become a job of the past thanks to a new "solderless" copper bonding "glue" that lets you work with copper pipe the way you'd work with pvc pipe.

Just-For-Copper comes in a small applicator tube. When applied to copper it generates a chemical reaction, providing a hermetic weld that's water-tight and air tight, with no need for solder. It's said to work up to 70 percent faster than solder welding and is as permanent and durable. There's no fire or burn risk compared to open flame soldering.

The product can be used on all rigid copper pipes, fittings, and connectors that carry water, as well as natural and LPG gas. It starts to bond, or "weld", as soon as you insert a treated copper pipe into a treated copper connector or fitting.

Application is easy. Using 60-grit sandpaper (provided), sand the copper or brass until it's shiny and free of all contaminants. Shake the bottle and squeeze a small bead of the product around the circumference of the leading outer edge of the pipe and also the leading inner edge of the connector. After you insert the pipe into the connector, the bond will be complete in only 5 seconds. However, you shouldn't move the pipe for at least 45



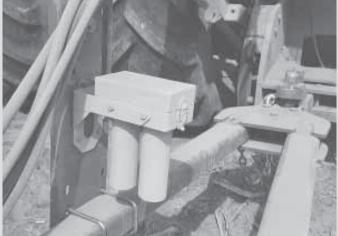
Solderless copper bonding "glue" lets you work with copper pipe the way you'd work with pvc pipe.

seconds to avoid breaking the bond. After that, you won't be able to break the bond apart with your hands.

JFC has an official rating of 500 psi so it will meet all plumbing codes. The product can't be used on any threaded connectors.

JFC is sold in 10g and 50g bottles. The 10g bottle will make about 40 welds and sells for \$14.99 plus S&H. The 50g bottle will make more than 200 welds and sells for \$24.99 plus S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jackson Industries, Inc., 400 Lake Ridge Drive, Russellville, Ark. 72802 (ph 866 304-5335; email: info@JustForCopper.com; website: www.copperbond.com).



"Grease Saver" holder gives you access to clean, undamaged grease tubes.

"Grease Saver" Keeps Spare Tubes Handy

This new "grease saver" lets you securely store a pair of spare grease tubes so they're always handy and undamaged whenever you need them. They come with a bracket that bolts onto any flat surface, and with a hinged lid that snaps into place.

"It gives you easy access to clean, undamaged grease tubes and keeps them off the floor so they won't get broken, and it stores them vertically so they can't leak out the cap," says inventor David Mezez of Twin Falls, Idaho. "It's designed so you can open it with one hand and pull out a tube without ever having to set your grease gun down.

"The holder is designed so you can join several units together, which comes in handy on larger equipment where you use more than two tubes each time you grease."

Mezes is the manager on a large dairy and farm operation with 140 employees. He came up with the idea after watching spare grease tubes get ruined. He made a prototype in which the tubes were laid flat. "However, I found that if the sun shined on the tubes and they get hot they could leak out the caps. They



Holder comes with a bracket that bolts onto any flat surface, and with a hinged lid that snaps into place.

can't leak if they're in the vertical position," he notes.

Mezes is looking for a manufacturer. Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Mezes, 994 Madrona St. N., Apt. B, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 (ph 208 280-2704; email:

mezoidaho@cableone.net).