Portable Waste Oil Shop Heater

If you like the idea of burning waste oil for heat but you don't like the complicated furnaces on the market, you might want to take a look at Thermobile portable heaters which are simple in comparison, says Jay Goethal, sales manager, Thermobile North America.

“We use a drip pan style,” he says. “You manually start the burner with a cup of diesel fuel. That heats the pan, and when the oil drips on the pan, it vaporizes.”

“We're priced right to burn up waste oil and get heat out of it,” says Goethal. “Our AT 306 puts out either 60,000 or 100,000 btu's and is priced at only $1,550, while the $3,700 AT 500 can produce up to 200,000 btu's.”

Thermobile offers four waste oil heating units, three with fully enclosed, lock down burner chambers and internal combustion fans for safe use, even in areas with flammable vapors present. The AT 306 and AT 307 are sized to heat 1,500 sq. ft and burn between 0.5 and 0.8 gal. of fuel per hour. The AT 400 will heat 5,000 sq. ft and burn between 0.7 and 1.0 gal. per hour. The AT 500 will heat 7,000 sq. ft and burn between 1.0 and 1.6 gal. of waste oil per hour.

The lower cost AT 306 simply draws its oxygen through holes in the fire chamber. It can be equipped with an optional Thermo Blower for added heat throw. The AT 307, AT 400 and AT 500 come standard with either the Thermo Blower or an internal axial fan.

“The AT 307 is our most popular unit,” says Goethal. “With fuel oil at $2.50 and waste oil at $1.40, this unit will heat a 1,500 sq. ft home for less than $100.00 a month during the cold months.”

Thermobile waste oil heaters have a simple design that uses a drip pan type burner. Goethal notes that the stoves don't have thermostat control and the burn pan has to be dumped after every use. But, he notes, the manual controls means there’s a lot less to go wrong. He notes that the stoves meet both U.L. and the Canadian CSA standards.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Thermobile North America, P.O. Box 403, 535 West Wall Street, Darzen, Wis. 53114 (ph 262 882-4203; fax 262 882-4202; info@thermobile.us; www.thermobile.us).

The next time your septic tiles spring a leak, you may be able to find the problem without digging up an entire line. A septic system failure finder has been developed at Purdue University.

Brad Lee, assistant professor, Agronomy, Purdue University, says “The sensor can help locate problems without digging. This is possible because soil contaminated with household waste has a higher electrical conductivity than the rest from the lawn.

“On each side,Tesch set about solving that problem, and was so pleased with his "made it myself" light protector, that he built one for both his 5240 and 120 Case IH tractors.

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Hand held data reader is connected to sensors inside an 8-ft. long pipe. It works because soil contaminated with household waste has a higher electrical conductivity.

Septic System Failure Finder Found

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Garden Tractor “Dump Truck”

“It's a nice little vehicle for yard work,” says Roy Gray, about the electric lift dump truck he built out of a 1960's Allis Chalmers 616 garden tractor.

“I get a lot of compliments on it whenever I take it to shows and parades,” says Roy Gray Jr., Newsoms, Va., who built an electric lift dump truck out of a 1960's Allis Chalmers 616 garden tractor.

The electric lift dump box measures 36 by 42 in. and operates off the tractor's battery.

He moved the seat forward over the tractor's engine, building a new mounting frame for it, and then mounted the dump box on back. To make room for his legs, he cut off part of the hood and moved the hood and grill forward 21 1/2 in. He also moved the steering wheel and gearshift forward. He made an extension to the brakes and mounted dual exhaust pipes near each rear wheel. The seat and wheels are original.

“It's a nice little vehicle for yard work,” says Gray. “The steering sector was originally located behind the tractor's gas tank, but I moved it forward in front of the engine and just behind the grill and cut-off hood. In that location it worked the opposite way, so I had to reverse it so that it worked the tractor's right wheel spindle instead of originally to the rear of the left spindle.”

Hand held data reader is connected to sensors inside an 8-ft. long pipe. It works because soil contaminated with household waste has a higher electrical conductivity.

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Tractor lights can be vulnerable to breakage when doing loader work, and “it doesn’t take much to break them,” says John Tesch of Mervin, Sask.

“Twice, we had lights get broken,” he explains. “When you’re loading bales on a semi, you have to get right close to it and sometimes touch it, so if you don’t have a protective shield, you’ll break your lights.”

Tesch set about solving that problem, and was so pleased with his "made it myself" light protector, that he built one for both his 5240 and 120 Case IH tractors.

“There are almost identical Case IH loaders on my two tractors, so making the second light guard was easy,” he says. “They’re attached to the loader frame and create a barrier a few inches away from and a bit above the lights.”

The guard is made up of two triangular (20 by 20 in.) 3/8-in. thick steel plates, each with a 3/4-in. hole in the bottom for bolting to the sides of the tractor’s front end loader frame. A 2-in. heavy-wall pipe is welded between the tops of the plates (this is done last, after the holes are drilled, and the plates are bolted to the loader frame).

On each side, Tesch made a 5/8-in. thick threaded washer, and drilled it so it would fit tightly (it’s welded in) inside the loader frame pipe and allow a 3/4-in. bolt to be threaded in.

He also welded an 8-in. long by 1 1/4-in. wide by 3/8-in. thick flatiron to the inside rear of each triangular plate so they rest on top of the loader frame and cannot turn.

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Light Guard Great For Loader Work

Light guard is made of two triangular steel plates that bolt to sides of tractor’s front end loader frame.