

“Bobber” Ice Fishing House

Jerry Forss wanted to build an ice fishing house as inexpensively as possible. So the Ellsworth, Wis., man made one out of a 1,100-gal. poly tank. It's painted red, black and white to look like a giant fishing bobber.

His “bobber house” sits on a small lake near Spring Valley, Wis. It's big enough for two people to fish comfortably. It sits on wood skids for easy transport.

“I used it last winter and got a lot of nice comments on it,” says Forss. “I bought the tank from a friend for \$100.”

The house has a black top made from a 15-gal. plastic barrel, three plexiglass windows, an LP heater, sky lights, and a 12-volt battery to power an ice auger as well as interior and exterior lights. An LP tank that supplies the heater mounts on a wooden platform just outside the tank.

There's a yard light outside over the door and four interior spotlights (off a conversion van). He used a sawzall to cut the plexiglass

windows into the tank. Ventilation is provided by a pair of sliding vents. The floor is formed from a 2 by 4 framework covered by plywood and carpet. There are four ice fishing holes in the floor, each equipped with a latch-type wooden door.

“I pull it around on two landscaping timbers that serve as skids,” says Forss. “When I took it out to the lake last fall the ice was thin so I used an ATV, but at the end of the season when I took it off I used a pickup. It's actually light enough that I can move it around by hand if I have to.”

He bolted a rattle reel with a fishing line on one wall. “When a fish bites, ball bearings in the reel make a rattling sound so I know there's a fish on the line,” says Forss.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jerry Forss, N4658 Cty. Rd. DD, Ellsworth, Wis. 54011 (ph 715 273-3102 or 715 222-0757; fireman@presenter.com).



Made from an 1,100-gal. poly tank, “bobber” ice fishing house sits on a small lake near Spring Valley, Wis.



Tank is big enough for two people to fish comfortably. There are four ice fishing holes in the floor.



Converted gravity box has a “cabin” on top, making it an ideal mobile hunting blind.

Gravity Box Converted To Mobile Hunting Blind

An Illinois farmer and his wife have the answer to drafty, cold hunting blinds. They tow their converted gravity box, nicknamed the SniperWagon, to the field a few weeks before hunting season. On opening day, they climb into the heated and paneled hunting room and wait for the right deer to walk by.

He first laid 2 by 4's across the top of the old wagon with plywood sheets for a floor. The “cabin” on top has a carpeted floor, swivel chairs and a little heater. The windows are designed to drop down noiselessly for a clean shot.

“We used to put out tree blinds and freeze to death in them while the tree would rock in the wind,” he says. “Now we can hunt in

warmth and comfort.”

They enlarged the grain door and built a set of steps inside the wagon hopper that lead up to the top.

The Illinois farmer, who wished to stay anonymous, has plans for the mobile blind.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, SniperWagon, P.O. Box 160, Leaf River, Ill. 61047 (admin@sniperwagon.com; www.sniperwagon.com).



Heated and paneled hunting room has a carpeted floor, swivel chairs and a small heater. Windows are designed to drop down noiselessly for a clean shot.

Tractor Weathervane Rotates In The Wind

What better way to draw attention to a tractor museum than to erect a 60-ft. tall, working weathervane with a real tractor perched on top.

In Westlock, Alberta, individuals and local businesses volunteered their time and expenses to build the attraction at the local Canadian Tractor Museum. They believe there's nothing else like it in the world.

From start to finish, the project took a couple of years.

A 1942 Case Model D tractor equipped with scalloped steel wheels, sits on top of a 60-ft. steel tower. It's attached to a 55-ft.-long pointer, and framework that includes a large ball bearing. The “feather” at the back end is 8 ft. high and turns easily in the slightest breeze. The tractor points in the direction of the wind and the weather vane's directional pointers have magnetic north orientation.

Materials, equipment and labor were all donated. The steel column was originally a smoke stack. It's bolted to a concrete base, and a 55-ton crane was used to stand it up. A 20-ton crane was used to lift the tractor.

The world class tractor museum opened in 2004 and houses about 75 fully restored vintage tractors. They're rotated on a yearly basis from a store of more than 200 units.

The museum is open the long weekend in May until the September long weekend, and any other time by appointment. Stop in and



A 20-ton crane was used to hoist a 1942 Case to the top of the tower. It rotates easily in even a light breeze.

see the displays of unusual, rare and just plain interesting vintage tractors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Canadian Tractor Museum, B5414, Westlock, Alberta, Canada T7P 2P5 (ph 780 349-3353, 780 349-3814, or 780 349-5178; revmcfarlane@shaw.ca).

How To Subscribe To FARM SHOW (New & Renewal)



Take out a new subscription (or renew your existing subscription) and get a FREE copy of our new “Combines & Schoolbuses” book.

Yes! I want to be first to learn about latest new products. Please sign me up for FARM SHOW and send me a FREE copy of your new “Combines & Schoolbuses” book.

Check here to renew.

United States

- \$19.95 for 1 yr.
- \$37.95 for 2 yrs.
- \$51.95 for 3 yrs.

Canada

- \$25.95 (Can.) for 1 yr.
- \$49.95 (Can.) for 2 yrs.
- \$65.95 (Can.) for 3 yrs.

My check (\$ _____) is enclosed. (Add 6% GST in Can.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State /Prov. _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to FARM SHOW.
Clip and mail this coupon to:
FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044
Or phone toll-free 800 834-9665
VISA, Mastercard & Discover accepted.