



Nelson Watson converted a bicycle into this 3-wheeled dog-powered cart.

Dog-Powered Cart Is Easy To Control

An Englehart, Ontario, man has come up with a fun new way to take his dog out for a run.

He converted a bicycle into a 3-wheeled cart, to which a dog can be harnessed. A work harness attaches to the dog at shoulder height.

Because the dog is pushing in back rather than pulling up front, the rider controls the steering and braking.

With the bike's low center of gravity, there's no downward pressure on the animal.

"I made it for a friend. She has a lot of fun riding it, and the dog gets some good exercise," says Nelson Watson. "It's a lot easier for the dog to push the cart from behind than to pull it from the front." He started with a BMX bike, lengthening it and replacing the rear wheel with two 28-in. bike wheels spaced 40 in. apart. A center rail made from 1 by 2-in. tubing bears most of the load. He moved the handlebars back by cutting them in half, then bending them toward the rear and welding the cut-off sections back on. The seat is off an old exercise machine.

The bike's hand brakes were remounted on the rear wheels, with a foot pedal used to operate them. There's also an emergency locking brake that stops and holds the dog as it's being harnessed. Headlights and reflectors make the cart easier to see.

The frame in back is made from 1-in. sq. tubing with a pair of metal rings welded onto it. Protective plastic fenders inside the rear wheels protect the dog from the wheels.

Watson says his friend has ridden the cart in parades and into town. "The cart is real easy for the dog to handle. I've seen the dog pull it at over 20 mph," says Watson. "We've even used a miniature horse to power the cart. The bar that supports the two rings on back can be telescoped forward or backward depending on the size of the animal."

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"It's a lot easier for the dog to push the cart from behind than to pull it from the front," he says.



Solar-charged battery feeds power to a transparent perch that has a built-in LED light. The light attracts bugs for birds to snack on.

Solar Birdhouse Attracts Bugs

This Dutch-built Solar Birdhouse makes it easy for birds to grab a nighttime snack. The solar cells on the roof charge up a built-in battery during the day. As it turns dark, the battery feeds power to a transparent perch with a built-in LED light.

The light attracts bugs for the birds in the birdhouse to snack on. Of course, it only ben-



efits bug-eating birds.

The \$90 bird house measures 3 1/2 in. sq. by 7 in. tall.

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You're never too old to collect antique tractors, says Ed Swanson who recently bought this 1958 Deere 520.

97-Year-Old Tractor Collector Still Looking For "Treasures"

By C.F. Marley, Contributing Editor

At age 97 Ed Swanson of Winnebago, Ill., may be the oldest active collector of antique tractors in the U.S. His most recent "find" is a 1958 Deere 520.

Ed says when he first saw the tractor sitting in the snow, he knew right away he wanted it. "Once I climbed on the seat I was hooked and had to buy it."

He also recently bought a No. 18 Deere corn picker, one of the last models that Deere ever made, and a Deere No. 15 mounted corn picker.

A photo taken last fall shows Ed with the Deere 520 tractor pulling the No. 18 Deere corn picker just after he had harvested an acre of ear corn. Later in the

winter the corn was shelled by a neighbor who's also an antique collector.

Ed started collecting stationary engines back in 1970 and has 10 that are in good working order.

But tractors aren't the only thing Ed is curious about. He's also a competent typist who taught himself to use an electric Smith-Corona when his handwriting started going bad. He corresponds by typewriter with friends and is also writing down memories and old stories of local lore.

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Last fall Ed used the Deere 520 tractor to pull a No. 18 Deere corn picker. Photo was taken just after he had harvested an acre of ear corn.