Instead of buying new axles for a couple trailers they were building, Clair Wilson and sons modified axles off Ford 3/4-ton and 1-ton pickups.

Rebuilt Pickup Axles Used On Trailers

Clair Wilson and sons at Wilson Seedtime and Harvest, Winchester, Ill. needed a couple of wide, heavy axles for a couple trailers they were working on. Instead of buying new ones, they modified the axles off Ford 3/4-ton and 1-ton pickups.

They removed the differential from each axle, leaving 1 ft. of axle on each side. Then they machined both ends of the axle stubs, slid them inside a larger diameter pipe, and welded everything in place. They also welded a fitting to the center of the pipe for adding oil to lubricate the bearings in the wheel hubs.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Clair Wilson and Sons, 129 Hillview Road, Winchester, Ill. 62694 (ph 217 742-3918).

Channel guide is about 3 ft. wide at center of door opening. It prevents damage to sliding doors in strong winds.

Simple Channel Saves Large Sliding Doors

After strong winds damaged the sliding doors on his storage shed, Mark Eilers came up with a simple yet effective method to deal with the problem.

Eilers simply made a guide channel out of a piece of channel iron, and then welded 3-ft. long rods onto the bottom of it to be driven into the ground. The channel iron extends up only about 3 in. above ground so it's easily crossed by the wheels on tractors, trucks and implements. The guide is only about 3 ft. wide at the center of the door opening. He rounded off the corners of the channel iron to prevent tire damage.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mark Eilers, RR1, Box 45, Tower Hill, Ill. 62571 (ph 217 259-7233).

Welded-Up Differential Boosts Golf Cart's Traction

Paul Malloy, Mims, Florida, welded up the differential on his electric golf cart to boost traction in tough conditions.

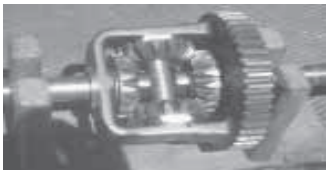
"I use an old electric golf cart to haul stuff, and as a mobile work bench. Unfortunately, the cart used to get stuck a lot. The problem is that on loose or slippery surfaces, one wheel would spin," says Malloy.

"The previous owner had tried using larger rear wheels, which only helped slightly. I tried softening up the front suspension, which also helped a little. But the golf cart would still lift one rear wheel on uneven ground, the differential would slip, and there I was, stuck. I couldn't find anyone who made a posi traction unit for the cart."

One day Malloy got so frustrated he decided to just weld up the differential, resulting in a solid rear axle. "I knew that would fix my problem, but I was worried the cart wouldn't turn as sharp or might tear up the grass. However, I couldn't be happier with the results," says Malloy. "The cart turns just as sharp as ever on grass and dirt, with no damage to the grass. The only time I notice anything different is when I make a U-turn on a paved road. Then I can hear the inside tire scratching."

He took the transaxle apart, and stick-welded the spider gears in the differential to the yoke at four different places. "I made the welds easily accessible to grind out in case I didn't like the results. However, after three years I haven't had any problems."

To boost traction in tough conditions, Paul Malloy welded up the differential on his electric golf cart.



He took the transaxle apart and stick-welded the spider gears to the yoke (weld spots are marked white in photo).

He's used an electric meter and GPS to calculate that it costs about 4 1/2 cents per mile to operate the golf cart.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Paul Malloy, 3700 Carter Rd., Mims, Florida 32754 (ph 321 269-7319).

"Hanger" Makes Post Auger Hook Up Easy

Dwayne Oxford, Holladay, Tenn., built an "auger hanger" to keep his 3-pt. mounted post-hole auger off the ground, where it's easy to hook up to the tractor.

"It's made out of nothing more than T-posts and pipe, but it works great," says Oxford.

The unit consists of a pair of vertical T-post "legs" spaced about 3 ft. apart, with a 1-in. dia. pipe across the top. The pipe rests horizontally on a pair of cradles and extends through a short length of 3-in. dia. pipe that Oxford welded onto the auger boom. The 1-in. dia. horizontal pipe is held in place on the auger by a pair of washers welded onto it on either side of the 3-in. dia. pipe.

Each pipe cradle is welded to the top of a length of pipe that slips over a T-post. A nut is welded to the bottom of the pipe. By loosening a set screw, Oxford can change the height of each cradle.

Each post sets inside a concrete block and has a lawn mower blade welded onto it at the bottom. "If the ground gets real soft, the blade keeps the post from sinking into the ground any farther than the block," says Oxford.

To keep the auger from getting hung up on tree roots, Oxford welded a pair of 2 by 8-in. sharpened steel blades between the auger's bottom two flights. He also welded stainless steel onto the leading edges of each blade for added wear.

Hanger keeps Dwayne Oxford's 3-pt. mounted post-hole auger off the ground so it's easy to hook up to a tractor.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dwayne Oxford, 4295 Kelly Road, Holladay, Tenn. 38341 (ph 731 584-6591).

Electric Chain Saw On Loader-Mounted Antenna

Larry Zenz needed a way to remove big, broken tree branches hanging over his house. But he didn't want to pay someone hundreds of dollars to do the job.

"We had a bad ice storm that broke tree branches up to 6 in. in diameter. Some of them were 35 ft. up in the air. I had to do something in a hurry to save my house," says the 80 plus years old Parks, Ark., farmer.

He already had an electric chain saw equipped with a 16-in. blade, and a 30-ft. TV antenna that he wasn't using any more. So he mounted the saw on the end of the antenna, then attached the antenna to the bale forks on his Deutz 45 hp loader tractor. A 3-pt. mounted, pto-driven generator on back of the tractor powered the saw, via an extension cord that ran from the generator, alongside the antenna, and up to the saw.

To mount the saw on the antenna, he cut two pieces of wood in a circle and fastened one piece to the antenna and the other to the saw. The saw is attached to a coil spring set on a swivel, which provides the necessary tension to pull the saw back up through the limb without binding.

"It worked great," says Zenz. "To start the saw I simply engage the pto."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Larry Zenz, HC 60, Box 154, Parks, Ark. 72950 (ph 479 577-2677; zle7@ipa.net).

Loader-mounted 30-ft. TV antenna has an electric chainsaw on one end. A pto-driven generator on back of tractor powers the saw.