How To Fix A Rusted Fuel Tank

Sooner or later, all steel fuel tanks are likely to have the same problem. They will begin to rust. Flake and develop pinhole leaks. But there’s an inexpensive way to repair old tanks, says Gackle. N. Dak. farmer Roger Gutschmidt. He successfully fixed his own fuel tank after noticing that rust flakes had started to collect in his fuel filter.

“The first thing I did was clean out the inside of the tank with the pressure washer, using hot soapy water,” he explains. “I removed the loose flakes, which I could look for by using a flashlight to see inside the tank. Then I tipped the tank upside down and let it drip dry for a few hours.”

Next, Gutschmidt poured about a pint of a product called “POR-15 U.S. Standard Fuel Tank Sealer” (POR stands for Paint Over Rust) into the tank through the top, immediately tipping the tank “every which way” so the product could completely coat and adhere to the entire inner surface. Finally, he poured out any excess product.

“Of course, you have to use some common sense. You can’t let the product run into a fuel line and if you have a shut off valve in the bottom of your tank, you have to take that out and screw a pipe plug into its place,” Gutschmidt let the product dry for 24 hrs.

A fuel tank after noticing that rust flakes had begun to collect in the fuel filter. Gutschmidt let the product dry for 24 hrs.}

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

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