



Damon Carson puts customers together with industrial “waste”. For example, mining equipment tires can be cut and laid flat for use as livestock walkways.



Steel drums with removable tops can be used for everything from compost drums to smokers and barbecue grills.

By Jim Ruen, Contributing Editor

## He Finds A Way To “RePurpose” Over-Engineered Industrial “Waste”

If you can think of a use for used roofing insulation panels, conveyer belting, 275-gal. liquid totes and 2500-psi flexible tubing, Damon Carson wants you to call. Dubbed the RePurpose Guy, Carson is always on the lookout for what he calls over-engineered waste.

“Many industrial products are candidates for repurposing,” says Carson. “But until someone buys it, it’s just potential.”

Carson likes to put customers together with over-engineered industrial waste. Insulated roof panels are a good example of what Carson looks for. Designed for use on large flat commercial roofs, the thick sheets of Polyiso insulation are moisture-resistant. When a leak develops in a small area, the entire roof is usually replaced, making large volumes of the high-tech insulation, as well as the rubber roofing membrane that covers it, available for salvage.

“The panel corners may be dinged or dented, but I can sell it for a third the cost of new panels, and it still provides good insulation,” says Carson. “Its moisture-resistant properties make it ideal for insulating foundations or the walls of a shop or poultry building.”

The roofing membrane gets used for everything from bunker silo covers to recovering older mobile home roofs or outbuilding.

“It would work as a weed barrier for landscaping and might even work as a pond liner,” says Carson. “People keep coming up with new uses.”

Carson recently took delivery of 750 ft. of high-pressure hose used to power-clean municipal sewer lines. The hose is designed to handle 2,500 psi, but has to be replaced if the outside layer is roughed up.

“It no longer has a value to the municipalities for use at 2,500 psi, but it may last another 20 years being used with 80 to 100 psi water or even air,” says Carson. “You can plumb

your shop with it to run 150 psi air.”

Used 275-gal. totes are another popular item. One customer used some for an aquaponics farm, while another used his in the back of a pickup to haul water.

“Some items are instant hits; others don’t go,” says Carson. “In May I picked up 40, 10 ft. long, 2 by 10-in. lengths of solid rubber that had been used on the bottom of snow-plow blades. I only sold 15 of them. One day someone will see them, and it will solve a problem, and they will want all I’ve got.”

Carson has 20,000 potential customers on his e-newsletter list. In a recent issue, he offered free sheets of tapered Polyiso insulation, 4-ft. by 4-ft. acoustical tile panels for \$10 each (originally \$50/tile) and super tough 6-ft. by 10-ft. filter cloths previously used in the brewing industry. Other recycled materials included billboard tarps, steel and plastic 55-gal. drums, climbing ropes and street sweeper brushes. To receive the newsletter, send your email address to: [jessica@repurposedmaterialsinc.com](mailto:jessica@repurposedmaterialsinc.com).

“The filter cloths would make great, long-lasting tarps for cleaning up lawn and tree debris,” says Carson. “The brushes often get used as cattle back scratchers. We are always looking for new materials and new uses.”

Carson uses his website to list current inventory and current uses. He also solicits website visitors and newsletter readers to let him know about waste byproducts their companies produce or items to be replaced that are available for salvage. He is always looking at new purposes for his inventory.

“Our customers are our R&D department,” he says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, RePurpose Materials Inc., 5138 E. 39th Ave., Denver, Colo. 80207 (ph 720 583-4873; [www.repurposedmaterialsinc.com](http://www.repurposedmaterialsinc.com)).



Rolls of heavy duty 4-ft. wide, 3/8-in. thick rubber conveyor belt work great for building windbreaks around livestock yards.



Conveyor belting can also be used as truck and trailer floor liners and livestock fencing.



Rubber roof membranes make heavy duty silage covers.

## Space-Saving Dog Bath Folds Up Out Of The Way

By C.F. Marley, Contributing Editor

Dave Rakers, Ohlman, Ill., wanted a dog bath that would let him work at a convenient level without having to bend over. He also didn’t want it to take up too much space in his garage. So, he built one that makes use of an existing drain in the center of the garage floor.

The dog bath consists of a 3 by 4-ft. boxed-in platform with 6-in. high sides and a sink drain in the middle. It mounts on a metal stand about 30 in. off the floor. The dog walks up a tread-fitted gangplank and onto the platform. A flexible hose drain runs from the center of the platform down to the garage’s floor drain.

One side of the box hinges on brackets fastened to the garage wall. When not in use, the dog bath simply folds against the side of the wall. A pair of spring teeth off an old wheel hay rake helps make the platform easier to fold up.

Raker used sq. tubing to make the bath’s frame and aluminum sheeting to make the floor of the bath, which slopes down toward the sink drain. The sides are made from pvc planking.

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Dave Rakers’s dog bath lets him work at a convenient level without having to bend over. When not in use, bath platform can be folded up against garage wall.

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