



Home-built machine is designed to cut old 500-gal. LP tanks into fire rings, burn barrels, and more.



Machine cradles tank on 8 rubber wheels – 4 idlers and 4 drivers – and rolls tank while it's being cut with a plasma cutter that mounts on a metal arm.

Machine Converts LP Tanks Into Burn Barrels And More

Over the years we've seen a lot of uses for old LP tanks, but the idea of cutting one up is a daunting proposition for many people. That's why we were amazed to get a look at Don Schley's operation in Elk Mound, Wis.

"We buy a lot of used 500-gal. LP tanks and refurbish them for individuals so people can own their own tanks," says Schley. "Some of the tanks can't be reused for gas so we made a machine to cut the tanks into fire rings, hot water boilers, culverts, burn barrels, and more."

They made the machine out of parts they already had laying around except for the variable speed control, which they bought

for \$185. The machine cradles the tank on 8 rubber wheels – 4 idlers and 4 drivers – and rolls the tank while it's being cut with a plasma cutter that mounts on a metal arm. "It takes about 3 min. for each cut on 3/8-in. thick tanks," says Schley. "Older tanks will be 1/2 to 5/16 in. thick; 1970's and newer tanks will be 1/4 in. thick or less."

"We usually cut fire rings from 12 to 18 in. high. We cut some tanks in the middle for use as burn barrels. On other tanks we cut off one end to make boilers, or both ends to make culverts."

He sells fire rings and flower pots for \$50 to \$75, or \$40 to \$60 for orders of 10 or



Schley cuts fire rings from 12 to 18 in. high (left). On other tanks he cuts off one end to make boilers, or both ends to make culverts.

more. Burn barrels sell for \$150, and boilers for \$300. Whole unrefurbished tanks sell for \$250, and refurbished tanks for \$500 to \$600.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Don Schley, Polish Enterprises, E8190 620th Ave., Elk Mound, Wis. 54739 (ph 715 879-5385).

"Roll-Up" American Flag

"I wanted to fly the American flag in my front yard, but without having to run the flag up and down a pole all the time. Now I can quickly roll the flag up or down right from my porch," says Elmer Pinkerton, Wichita, Kan.

Pinkerton's porch is 8 ft. wide and so is his flag. He mounted an 8-ft. piece of rain gutter under the front edge of the porch, upside down. Then he put a piece of electrical conduit inside the gutter and attached the top

edge of the flag to the conduit. One end of the conduit sticks through the gutter end cap.

"I can reach up and roll the flag up or down at will," says Pinkerton. "When the flag is rolled up the gutter protects it from the elements. Also, it's easy to run the flag up at night."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Elmer Pinkerton, 2716 W. 17th N., Wichita, Kan. 67203 (ph 316 942-8117).



Elmer Pinkerton rolls his flag up into a piece of rain gutter mounted upside down.

Dual Camera System Mounts On Semi Trailer

An Ohio farmer's near accident while trying to climb up the back of a semi truck grain trailer led to development of a dual camera, closed circuit camera system that he says works great.

"After almost falling off an icy semi truck grain trailer while loading grain, I decided to install video cameras on front and back of the trailer with a monitor in the truck cab," says Jim Case.

He attached the cameras to 3/4-in. dia., telescoping metal conduit that extends 2 to 3 ft. above the top of the trailer. "The height allows me to view the loading process if dust happens to be blowing in the direction of the cameras," says Case. "When I go on the road, I lower the rear camera and face it backward so I can see what's going on behind me. Not only do the cameras make it safer to load grain in the winter, but I stay warm inside the truck cab."

Cords lead from the cameras up to the truck's cab where the monitor is mounted. Case leaves the cords on the trailer permanently and uncouples them at the semi

tractor.

He says mounting cameras on semi trailers offers several benefits including "no more grain spills; after loading a few loads I can keep my load weights almost the same for every load; I can see anything or anyone behind me while backing up; and when backing up inside a building it's easy to see how close I am to the rear wall."

Each camera-mounting bracket is welded to a pipe coupler at the top of the conduit. The bottom of the conduit is permanently attached to the trailer's ladder, while the top part is free to slide up or down about 3 ft.

He also attaches the same camera-mounting brackets to other implements, including grain carts and planters. "To switch cameras to another implement, I simply unplug the camera and slide it out of its bracket and into the bracket on the other implement."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Jim Case, 2370 N. U.S. 23, Delaware, Ohio 43015 (ph 740 815-4528; casefarmsinc@gmail.com).



Each video camera is attached to a telescoping metal conduit that extends 2 to 3 ft. above the top of Jim Case's semi truck grain trailer.