

Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

amount of Kroil lubricant to loosen it up (ph 800 311-3374; www.kanolabs.com). After applying the oil I let it set overnight. The next day, the pulley came right off.

"I use a lot of this product so I bought a 1-gal. jug. I also bought a small can for my wife who uses it all the time, too.

"After the radiator on my tractor plugged up, causing the tractor to overheat, I decided to try to clean it out. I flushed the entire cooling system with a mixture of water and trisodium phosphate, which removed all the goop and gunk. Then I dumped that mixture out of the radiator and flushed it again with a mixture of muric acid and water. It cleaned the entire system, and my total cost was only about \$5. When I looked down into the radiator it was sparkly clean. No more problems."

Bob Bugger, Effingham, Ill.: "My home-built, portable metal table provides a good place to work on oily parts, without making a big mess. It has a concave top that slopes



to one end of the table, where a built-in trough directs oil to a small hole at one corner of the table. From there, the oil drains through a metal pipe and into a bucket below the table.

The table is made from an old section of curved, 1/2-in. thick steel boiler plate on a heavy pipe frame and heavy caster wheels. It'll handle just about anything I can lift onto it, including tractor engines, automatic transmissions, gearboxes, etc.

"I often use the table in my basement workshop, which is attached to my garage. I can drive a tractor into the garage, take the engine out, set it on the table, then roll the table on into the basement where I disassemble the engine and let the oil drain off."



Paul J. Dietz, Hicksville, Ohio: "I wanted more shelf space in my 30 by 30-ft. garage, without taking up more floor space. To solve the problem I bought some 4-ft. wide, 5-ft. high commercial plastic shelves and hung them from the ceiling joists along two walls. The top shelf is about 12 ft. off the floor. I use a pole with a hook on it to retrieve any objects that I can't reach."

Robert Mork, Sevierville, Tenn.: "A couple friends of mine own a small engine and mower repair business. Years ago, they got me to use Briggs & Stratton fuel stabilizer and said if I used it continually that I would never have carb problems with any of my equipment, even if it sat for extended periods of time. The current EPA mandated fuel

blends have little shelf life and over time can wreak havoc on small carbs like mowers, chain saws, weed trimmers, and such. Over the past 5 or 6 years, though, I have had no problems with any of my engines starting or running even if they sat idle for up to 2 years.

"A 32-oz. bottle of Briggs & Stratton Fuel Stabilizer sells for \$21.95 and will treat 80 gal. of gas. It has a built-in measuring cup. Small capsules that treat 2 1/2 gal. are available for \$1."

John Johnson, Paradise, Mont.: "There's no better product to free up rusted bolts, springs, and other parts than Kroil, a penetrating lubricant from Kano Labs (www.kanolabs.com; ph 800 311-3374 or 615 833-4860). It's better than WD-40 by a long shot. I'm not a salesman for the product. I just want to tell people how great it works."

Darrel Harp Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 140, Red Bay, Ala. 35582 (ph 256-356-4424; www.darrellharp.com): This company is a good source of parts for import tractors, including Chinese, Japanese, Shenniu, Fengshou, Mitsubishi, and more. The company offers a water pump rebuilding service for Asian tractors and they also offer Asian tractors for sale, along with tillage, planting, and harvesting equipment.

Rex Gogerty, Hubbard, Iowa: Rex sent us this picture of a tool trailer set up by a local contracting company. He figured the same idea could be used by anyone to make an inexpensive farm shop. The contractor



cut a side door and picture window into the side of a semi trailer. Inside are tool and parts storage, and an office area. Rex notes that used semi trailers can often be picked up at a low price.

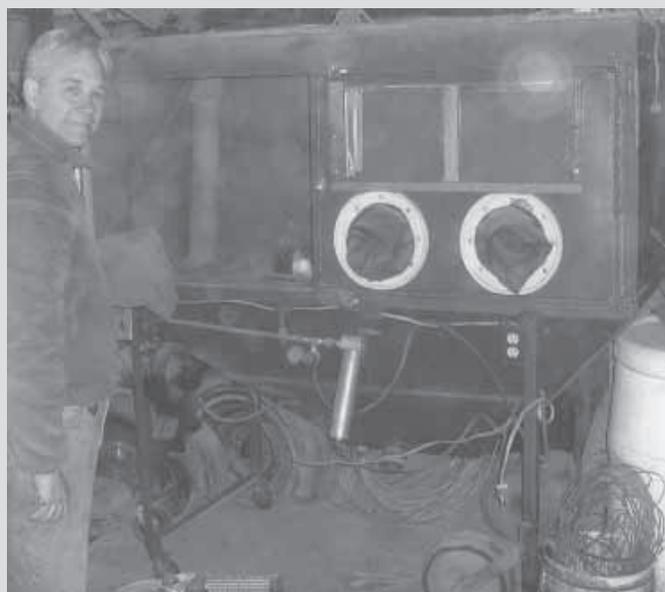
George Reisner, Jewett, Ill.: George says most lawn mower decks would need a lot less maintenance if they were washed out cleanly every time you mow. He came up with a



practical, inexpensive way to flush the underside after he finishes mowing. He attached a pipe to a concrete wall and runs it out along the ground. He drilled holes every few inches that squirt upward. He just turns the water on and drives over the pipe with the mower running.

Arco Rosenow, Chillicothe, Ill.: "To keep wasps and spiders out of the hose connector on air tools, press on a 1-in. long, 1/2-in. dia. plastic pipe with an end cap. The cap will also protect the threads from being damaged.

"To protect hack saw blades and files, put them inside a length of 3/4-in. dia. plastic pipe. You can also wrap several feet of duct tape around the pipe for a convenient way to carry the blades and files."



Bob Bugger made this sandblaster out of a tapered grain tank off an old IH pull-type combine.

Portable Sandblaster Made From Combine Grain Tank

Bob Bugger, Effingham, Ill., made a sandblaster out of a salvaged combine grain tank. It's big enough to hold large parts and mounts on caster wheels so it's easy to move around.

He started with a tapered grain tank off an old IH pull-type combine. He cut out one side of the tank to make an access door. An air-powered blast gun hooks up to an air compressor. A siphon hose runs from the gun down into a bucket of sand. An old squirrel cage fan clears away dust during sandblasting. Lights inside the tank provide light.

Bugger cut a pair of holes into one side of the tank and lined them with plastic cut out of old 5-gal. buckets, then attached lengths of truck inner tubing to the plastic to keep sand from blowing up his sleeves. He mounted a big pipe on the bottom of the tank to pull sand out of the tank. Inside the tank is a big grate to hold parts, with screens below it for sifting out small pieces so they don't get into the sand.

There's a large glass window above the access doors, with metal screen mounted just inside it to keep sand from scratching the

glass.

"It doesn't look pretty but it works well. I used mostly salvage parts so my total cost was less than \$25," says Bugger. "I restore cars and tractors for a hobby, and I used the grain tank because I wanted a sandblaster that was big enough to fit a whole car front fender into. Most of the time I use it on small parts, which is why I installed two access doors on front. It's important to use a tank with a tapered bottom, because it will funnel all the sand to one place.

"Switches mounted outside the tank are used to control the lights, blower, and shop vac. I can run the tube from the blower out the window to blow dust outside or, if I don't want to blow dust outside, I can hook up the shop vac to the blower. Electric plug-in outlets mounted on the tank allow me to operate other shop tools. To keep condensation out of the air lines, which might cause sand to plug them up, I mounted a quick-tach final water separator on one end of the line."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Bugger, 8971 E. 1025th Ave., Effingham, Ill. 62401 (ph 217 536-6516).

"Shover" Is Hammer And Shovel

"I invented what I call the 'shover' one day after I had to repair an electric pasture fence and the only tool I had in my pickup was my shovel," says Clint Dearden, Scott City, Kansas.

He took an old shovel that was missing its handle and welded a short length of pipe over it.

Dearden fashioned a hammer out of pipe and drilled a matching hole through both the hammer handle and the extension pipe. A 1/4-in. clip pin holds the two tools together into an adult-sized shovel.

He painted the first shover fluorescent orange because he found an extra can of paint in the shop. Since then, he's made a second one that he painted black.

"The shover is simply a time and frustration saver, especially for a 19-year-old who has far better things to do than repair a fence."

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Dearden fashioned hammer out of pipe. He uses it on an old shovel with a length of pipe welded on in place of its missing handle.