

## Reader Recipes

### Pineapple Bread

1 egg, well beaten  
3/4 cup honey  
3 tbsp shortening  
2 1/4 cups flour  
1/2 tsp salt  
3 tsp baking powder  
1 cup pineapple juice  
1 cup bran  
1/2 cup nuts

Combine honey and shortening. Add egg. Beat well. Sift flour, measure. Dredge nuts with 1/2 cup flour. Sift remaining flour with baking powder and salt. Add alternately with bran, pineapple juice, and nuts to honey mixture. Pour into well-oiled loaf cake pan which has been lined with wax paper. Bake in moderate oven 350° about 1 1/4 hrs. Store 24 hours before serving. Makes 1 loaf.

*Kristi Gilman-Miller*

*My Small Kitchen*

### Sweet Potato Casserole

2 1/2 lbs. sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1-in. cubes  
3/4 cup packed brown sugar  
1/4 cup butter, softened  
1 1/2 tsp salt  
1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
1/2 cup finely chopped pecans, divided  
cooking spray  
2 cups miniature marshmallows

Preheat oven to 375°. Place sweet potatoes in a Dutch oven and cover with cold water. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, and simmer for 15 minutes or until very tender. Drain; cool slightly. Place potatoes in a large bowl. Add sugar and next 3 ingredients (through vanilla). Mash sweet potato mixture with a potato masher. Fold in 1/4 cup pecans. Scrape potato mixture into an even layer in an 11-in. x 7-in. baking dish coated with cooking spray. Sprinkle with remaining 1/4 cup pecans, top with marshmallows. Bake at 375° for 25 minutes until golden.

### Egg Nog Waffles

2 cups biscuit mix  
1/4 tsp nutmeg  
1 1/2 cups eggnog  
2 tbsp salad oil  
1 egg

Mix all ingredients thoroughly until smooth. Pour into a waffle maker or onto a griddle for cakes.



Murray Ward "bearproofed" his backyard bird feeder by tapping into an electric fence wire on a rail fence behind the yard.

## Bird Feeder "Bearproofed" With Electric Fence

Murray Ward lives a few miles from Grand Rapids, Minn., in the heart of bear country. After building a big decorative bird feeder for his back yard, he needed something to keep the local bears at bay. He solved the problem by tapping into an electric fence wire on a wooden rail fence behind the yard.

He hooked up 4 strands of electric wire between the fence and his house. Two strands run a few ft. away from each side of the feeder, with the bottom strand 3 in. above ground and the top strand 24 in. The wires are hooked up to a pair of spring-loaded, electric fence gate hooks that attach to the house.

"When we want to mow the yard or my wife wants to work with her flowers, we just remove the gate hooks," says Ward. "A timer is used to automatically electrify the wires in the evening and turn them off in the morning."

He knows the fence works on bears. "One morning right after I put up the fence, we saw that a bear had come in the night and got shocked. The wires were all tangled up, but the bear never touched the feeder and it never came back."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Murray Ward, 29360 Co. Rd. 67, Grand Rapids, Minn. 55744 (ph 218 398-7160; wardstwo@gmail.com).

## "Back Side" Mailbox Alert

"I thought your readers might be interested in how I modified the flag on my mailbox to tell me when the mail has arrived. It saves me from walking out twice a day to the mailbox, only to find out there's no mail in it," says Mike Peterson, Bellingham, Wash.

Peterson's mailbox is located about 80 ft. from his house. "Four different mail carriers come by our house every day, but I never know if I've got mail unless I see them stop," he says.

"So when my mailbox recently got damaged I kept the flag, bought a new mailbox, and mounted the flag upside down on the back side of it. The flag came mounted on a shaft that runs through a plastic mounting bracket that attaches to the mailbox."

Peterson drilled a small hole through one corner of the flag and through the back side of the mailbox, and also through the door. A short length of fishing line is attached to the flag and runs inside the mailbox up to the door. He also installed a pair of washers on the flag's shaft to create friction on the line.

"When the door is opened, the flag automatically raises to a horizontal position so I know the mail has arrived," says Peterson. "The flag remains horizontal after the door is closed because of the friction on the shaft. After I remove the mail I shut the door and manually push the flag back down. A bracket inside the mailbox keeps the line on one side of the mailbox so it's not in the way."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Mike Peterson, 2112 Yew St. Rd., Bellingham, Wash. 98229 (ph 360 676-0971; jylybean54@gmail.com).

## Solar-Heated Dog House

Jack Ziegler and his son Colton used scrap materials to build a cozy "sun hut" that keeps their dog warm in cold weather.

"Dad built it a couple of years ago. It lets our Beagle look out and see everything that's going on outside, while also staying warm," says Jack. "There's a big bed inside that rests on a floor covered by an old carpet."

The 3-ft. high, 6 by 4-ft. dog house is built on top of a wood pallet. The entire front side and top are made from sliding glass patio doors, which are screwed to a frame made from 2 by 4's.

"The top side slants down toward the front, and the front side tilts out to take advantage of the sun angle," says Jack. "The back side is covered by tin off an old pole building and has tar paper attached to it to help retain the heat. One end of the house is covered with tin, and there's a door at the other end that was made by cutting a section of carpet into long strips."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Colton Ziegler, 61366 129th St., Mapleton, Minn. 56065 (ph 507 340-3364; Cziegler18@gmail.com).



Flag on back of mailbox automatically raises to a horizontal position when door is opened.



"Sun hut" keeps dog warm in cold weather.

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Plastic tray measures 30 in. long by 16 in. wide and mounts on any wheelbarrow.

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You can carry garden tools in your wheelbarrow with this new removable tray that mounts on any wheelbarrow.

The Burro Buddy is made of heavy-duty plastic and is 30 in. long by 16 in. wide. It mounts over the back edge of your wheelbarrow and helps organize your garden tools in one place.

The tray includes long and short handle tool holders, a drink holder, and a water-resistant compartment for your cell phone. It fits 4 to 7 cu. ft. wheelbarrows and stays securely attached at angles up to 90 degrees.

The Burry Buddy sells for \$39.95 at Menards or at Amazon.



Buckboard wagon is intended only for display, but can be easily rolled around.

## "Ornamental" Buckboard Wagon

If you like the idea of displaying a bit of history in front of your home or business, take a look at this buckboard wagon kit. It's ideal for displaying or marketing flowers, plants and produce.

The wagon measures 8 ft. long by 3 ft. wide by 80 in. high. It rides on 42-in. dia. front wheels and 48-in. dia. rear wheels. Although intended only for display, the wagon rolls so that you can easily move it around your property.

The kit includes 4 wooden hub wheels, 2 metal axles, an assembled dash and wagon seat, and pre-cut wood components for the wagon box and axles along with hand-forged hardware and detailed assembly instructions (holes for fasteners are not pre-drilled).

The only tools needed are a crescent wrench, hand drill, hammer and screwdriver.

Sells for \$1,974.95 plus truck freight shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Hansen Wheel and Wagon Shop, 40979 245th St., Letcher, S. Dak. 57359 (ph 605 996-8754; www.hansenwheel.com).