



**Bill Fricks, Muldrow, Okla.:** "I use a garden hose reel to wind up electric fence wire. I just disconnect the opposite end and start winding. If there are splices, I take the wire off the insulators and wind in one spot. The wire comes in easily. I have another rig for a 2-wire fence. I pick up hose reels for free when people leave them at dumpsters. Works very well."

**Paul Tierney, Bloomington, Minn.:** Here's a handy hint for all you welders out there who have welding jackets that continually fall apart. "I had a jacket that looked like leather but it turned out to be neoprene or something like it. The jacket eventually melted in so many spots I couldn't wear it. So when I found this old leather jacket, I decided to 'thread-proof' all



the seams by dripping super glue over all of them. You can see in the photo that the seams are darker than the jacket. That way when a spark lands on the threads, burning them, they won't unravel. The idea works great on any clothing or shoes you wear while welding. If you thread-proof the seams, they'll last a lot longer."



**Barry Williams, Cooks Mills, Ill.:** "It was getting hard for this old man to stoop down to read tire pressure rating on all my different sizes of tires. It's hard to see the numbers and hard to read them. My solution was to write the pressure rating on the side of the tire or the rim with a Pentel white correction

## Simple Tip For Hard Starting Deere

If you have a Deere 4-WD diesel tractor that is hard to start, Ted Lacey has a simple tip.

"Pull the fuel stop lever out 1/2 to 3/4 in.," says the South Dakota rancher and inventor of the Hay Manager (FARM SHOW Vol. 36, No. 3) and other equipment.

He learned the method after purchasing a hard starting 8640 Deere and paying a mechanic \$800 to check out the injectors and add new tips. When Lacey took it home, the tractor did the same thing - spew white smoke. Only by pumping lots of ether could he get it started in even the warmest weather.

When he called the mechanic back, Lacey learned that for a while Deere beefed up its

tractors with "full rack advance" which added more fuel, heat and combustion in the engine. With some tractors that creates problems with the rpm's and can even break crankshafts.

Pulling the fuel stop lever reduces the amount of fuel to start the tractor without stressing tractor parts.

So, if you have issues with starting an older Deere 4-WD diesel tractor, Lacey suggests adjusting the fuel stop lever before trying other expensive options.

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A chain with a hook and a piece of metal pipe can make a good lasso for pulling.



## How To Pull With A Pipe And Chain

Eric Grutzmacher keeps a chain and short piece of pipe in his pickup. It's come in handy often to move a fallen tree across the road or rip out invasive shrubs on his Sisters, Ore., property.

How to use it is an old trick he shared in the Home & Shop Companion, a free weekly email newsletter he puts out from Small Farmer's Journal, a quarterly periodical published and family-owned since 1976.

"I called it a chain lasso, but it's probably more accurately described as a choker chain," Grutzmacher says. "It acts like a slip knot."

Instead of wrapping the chain around itself or making a couple of wraps, the hook slips into the pipe. With the hook safely secured,

the other end of the chain can be hooked up to a pickup, tractor, etc.

"It's not an original idea by any means," he notes, but he recognized its usefulness and simplicity and shared it recently with readers.

He also tested its pulling power when he needed to demolish an old single-wide trailer. He linked a few chains end to end through a door and window, using the "chain lasso." It worked well to tear the trailer wall in half, he says.

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# FARM SHOW®

## Money-Saving Repairs & Maintenance Shortcuts

Have you come up with any unusual money-saving repair methods for fixing farm equipment? What maintenance shortcuts have you found? Have you had any equipment recalled by the factory? Name a particularly tough mechanical problem you've had with a piece of equipment and how you solved it.

These are a few of the questions we asked randomly selected FARM SHOW readers. If you have a repair tip, maintenance shortcut, or other mechanical experience you'd like to share, send details to: FARM SHOW, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044 or email us at: editor@farmshow.com.

Mark Newhall, Managing Editor

pen (about \$8 at amazon.com or Walmart), which will stay on forever. I use these pens to mark many other things around my place."

**Steve Coley, Meeker, Colo.:** "Here's a trick for finding all of the pinholes in a rusty fuel tank. First, get the tank 'boiled out' at a radiator shop. Then get a magic marker and a flashlight or light bulb that will fit inside the tank.

"In a dark area, put the light in the tank and mark all the pinholes with the magic marker. Then patch all of the holes with JB Weld before coating the inside of the tank with a sealant.

"I came up with this trick when restoring an old Mercedes diesel. A replacement tank would have been very expensive. The upper part of the tank was badly corroded but after patching and coating, it worked perfectly."



**Rick Bohl, Cedaredge, Colo.:** "We had a problem in our carport with chalky drip lines off the underside of the metal roof, which is starting to deteriorate. When condensation collects on the metal, it drips from the raised ribs and leaves nasty white lines on your vehicles.

"To solve the problem without replacing the carport, we fastened a couple tarps to the 2 by 2 metal tubing using 1 by 2 boards and self tapping screws. It worked well for us at a cost of only about \$50 and our labor."

**Nancy Sundin, Pine Bluffs, Wyo.:** "To remove metal fragments and other pieces of metal from a magnet, first put the magnet into a plastic bag. Then pick up the fragments, nails, or whatever your picking up with the magnet so that the metal pieces stick to the outside of the bag. When you're done, just turn the bag inside out, bagging up the metal and leaving the magnet free. Works great."

**Bill Ridgway, Salem, Ind.:** "If you use old shirts and other clothing for rags, borrow

your wife's rolling fabric cutting tool. It's unbelievable how fast you can get the job done with one of these.

"However, be advised to treat the tool with kid gloves and return it after you're done, or you can expect burnt toast, cold coffee and a cold shoulder for an extended period of time."



**Crescent Tools (www.crescenttool.com; ph 866-907-9716):** Have you heard about the Screw Biter screwdriver from Crescent Tools for removing damaged, corroded, or stripped screws. You simply align the Screw Biter bit with the screw head and strike the steel end cap of the spring-loaded handle. An internal mechanism uses that impact force to turn the screw 12 degrees, breaking it loose. A 2-piece set with flathead and Phillips bits sells for about \$25."

**Gusto Lehmann, Canada:** "You had an article a few years ago about a guy who replaced the power steering pump on a Case 1190 tractor with a pump from a 2000 Nissan Xterra. He did it because it's almost impossible to find a Case pump for that 30-year-old tractor. I wanted to confirm that the information in your article was 100 percent correct. I did it and it worked great. Very simple. Thank you." (Volume 37, No. 3).

**Richard Church, McCleary, Wash.:** "Sometimes during cold weather when I grab a can of WD-40 or another pressurized can, nothing will come out even though there's still liquid in the can. So I put about 2 in. of water in a tin can that's larger than the spray can and heat it up on the stove. Once the water is hot, I take it off the stove and put the spray can in the hot water for a few minutes. Works nearly every time."