

to roof a building, and we lifted the shingles up to the roof with a loader bucket. The loader kept sinking, so I got these stops, and problem solved. It also works great for other things like hanging a deer for dressing. You can find different style stops at Amazon and other ag parts retailers."



**Bob Keldsen, Grant, Minn.:** "I love my 3-year-old DR brush cutter. But several times the oil fill cap has caught on low-hanging branches and twisted off, squirting oil out under pressure. I solved the problem by using a safety wire to hold the cap in the closed position. All I did was drill a hole in the cap and run a safety wire over to the cage around the muffler."

**Allen Franks, Guthrie, Ky.:** "When I finish using a spray paint can, I dab a small bit of grease over the orifice. The next time I need to use that color, I just wipe off the grease and start spraying. This idea has worked for me for more than 40 years."

**Steve Rike, Titonka, Iowa:** "I place a large underwater metal recovery magnet on my yard rake to pick up roofing nails after any re-shingle job. Works great."

**Bob Horrigan, Ogilvie, Minn.:** "I guess everyone knew this except me, but I couldn't believe how much easier it is to remove wheel lug nuts since I bought a battery-operated Milwaukee impact wrench. It takes nuts off like nothing!"

**Michael Wood, Bitely, Mich.:** "Since we air-conditioned our shop, it's a lot more comfortable to work out there during hot summer weather. I think it's worth it."

**Robert A. Seefeld, Hamburg, Wis.:** "To repair or replace iron 3-pt. sway blocks on our 3000 and 4000 Deere tractors, I've found that it's a lot cheaper and simpler to use blocks of oak or Brazilian cherry for these. Works great."

**Russ Clearwater, Waynesboro, Penn.:** "I bought a heavy-duty Ford sedan scissor jack and cut off the flip handle. The remaining hex shaft can be driven with a cordless drill. It's very handy for numerous jobs because it'll lift up to 1,200 lbs. quickly, and I can carry both the jack and drill in the trunk on trips."

**John Krueger, Blanchard, Okla.:** "I keep an eye out at garage sales and auctions for golf caddy carts because they're handy to carry many things around the farm - sprayers, plasma cutters, propane bottles, battery chargers, trash cans, and more."

"The features in my shop that make it an efficient place to work are having an overhead garage door on each end so I can drive through, the overhead electric hoist, and my rolling welding table with a vise."

**Elton Wylie, Hamilton, Texas:** "I use Dawn dish detergent to clean all non-electric tools and then dry them out with WD-40 and air. Hardly ever need diesel or other chemicals to clean tools anymore. Also, Dawn mixed with water in a hand pump sprayer will kill flies."

**William "Bubba" Sanford, Roxboro, S.C.:** "My tip for better machine maintenance is to constantly walk around equipment looking for minor problems to fix before they become major. I try to keep equipment as clean as possible to

make problems easier to spot. Maintenance, maintenance, and more maintenance pays off with fewer repairs.

"In my shop, the worktables, vises, and toolboxes are all mounted on wheels so they can be wheeled over to the work. Also, a good hand truck is worth its weight in gold in a 1-person shop."

**Randy Bunger, Humboldt, Iowa:** "The wiring on older trailers is almost always broken or in poor shape. I improve the wiring by installing new 12-ga. stranded wiring inside lengths of rubber garden hose. The cheapest hose at Walmart works well and a 50-ft. hose goes a long way. I've also changed all trailer lights to LED strips, which last longer and are more durable."

**Dwight Veldhouse, Norcross, Minn.:** "Fluorescent orange tape makes frequently used tools much easier to spot in dark toolboxes or when scattered on the ground."

**David Bergey, Meridian, Idaho:** "I used a Therm-A-Gasket repair kit to fix a leaking head gasket on a Kubota tractor (www.rxauto.com). If you follow the directions, it works great."

**Myron Wollock, Wis.:** "I use 91 octane ethanol-free gas with 1 oz. of Seafoam for each gallon of gas in all my engines. Works great all year long and keeps them running clean and more efficiently. Don't worry about the price. It's worth it."

**Robert Anfinson, Peterson, Minn.:** "We had two tractors, a John Deere 70 and a John Deere A, that were not used for several years, so the engines were frozen. I bought a gallon of PB Blaster along with a spray can of it. First, I sprayed the spark plugs on both tractors. Three days later, they were loose. Then, I poured a quart of PB Blaster into each cylinder. Ten days later, I checked to see if the pistons were loose, and they were. Turns out a Farmall F-20 starter crank works great on the end of the Deere engine crankshafts."



**Henry Lehman, Corvallis, Ore.:** Henry likes using strips of rubber inner tube to hold extension cords and hoses. "They're easy to tie, hold tightly, and they make it easy to hang stuff on the walls."

**Scott Geyer, Lakeville, Minn.:** "I am good at starting to paint a room and not finishing. I've found drilling a hole in the top of an empty, clean pringles potato chip can and sliding it over the paint roller handle with the closed end facing up makes it easy to store a paint roller overnight in the can with the lid sealed and the roller cover still attached to the handle and a bit 'wet' with paint."



**John Rochester, Charlotte, N.C.:** "Here's an idea that helps me find tools I need. I clip a rechargeable LED flashlight to the underside of the lid of my toolbox. Let's me see everything much better."

## Magnetic Hub Plug Prevents Damage

The Magnetic Hub Plug (also called Eyemag) is a patent-approved device designed to collect metal shavings from the oil hub on semi-trucks and trailers. It's the first known preventative maintenance safety detector device for oil hub assemblies.

Founder Nick Perich has more than 40 years of experience in the trucking business. He's seen firsthand what can happen when wheels come off semis, causing extensive damage and putting drivers at risk. The Magnetic Hub Plug will alert drivers about potential issues before they become a problem. "It's all about the safety of the public," says Perich. The Plug is a product 6 years in the making, from Perich's original sketches to approval of a patent and manufacturing in Canada.

As the name implies, a magnet in the bottom of the Magnetic Hub Plug collects metal shavings floating within the hub. In contrast, a pure rubber hub plug only holds oil in. Adding this magnet that dips into the oil prevents the shavings from wearing against the seal. Drivers can take it out at any point and assess the hub for signs of metal shavings. Perich believes this can easily save \$3,000 to \$4,000 in potential repairs if an issue goes unnoticed and wheels wear down. "If the axle goes, that's a \$10,000 minimum repair," says Perich. "It's all about the magnet."



Hub Plug collects metal shavings floating in the hub which can be an early warning sign of problems.

Perich has heard firsthand from truckers who were saved by the Magnetic Hub Plug. "Lots of people will call us and say, 'You know, something sounded funny, so I looked at the Plug at a rest stop. And it was full of metal shavings! I got it serviced at the next opportunity. You really saved me.'"

The plugs are currently sold online in packs of two for \$19.99 plus shipping. Perich and his team also sell them at regional fairs and shows and hope to connect with national distributors.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Magnetic Hub Plug (eyemagplug@gmail.com; www.magneticplug.com; www.eyemag.ca).

## Illumiladder Lights Up Any Space

As a plumber, Tim Hulet was often frustrated by low-light conditions, and it seemed logical to him to add lights to a ladder. He teamed up with Donnie Williamson, a machine technician who works in aerospace, to develop the Illumiladder.

The Illumiladder has 18-in. LED strips with a battery adapter for 18 and 20-volt DeWalt and Milwaukee batteries to provide bright light for up to 5 hrs., with dimmer light for another 3 or 4 hrs.

The strips attach to the ladder's leg with Velcro®, using a strong 3M™ fastener to secure the battery adapter.

"The U.S.-made lights slide in a waterproof housing with an end cap and cord to the battery. It's built heavy-duty and all enclosed," Hulet says. The lights typically use white bright LEDs with 1,872 lumens, though some customers, such as painters request natural light LEDs.

Featured at the 2023 National Hardware Show in Las Vegas, the Illumiladder attracted the attention of people in many professions.

"It's helpful to contractors and farmers working on equipment or in a barn with poor lighting," Hulet says.

FARM SHOW subscribers can get the Illumiladder for \$149.95 with the promo code "Farm," battery not included. Buyers need to specify the battery adapter needed (DeWalt



Illumiladder has 18-in. LED strips with a battery adapter for 18 and 20-volt DeWalt and Milwaukee batteries to provide bright light for up to 5 hrs.

or Milwaukee).

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Tim Hulet, P.O. Box 375, Perry, Okla. 73077 (ph 580-307-5911; illumiladder@gmail.com; www.illumiladder.com).

## Quick Portable Backup Power

Toro says its Impulse Endeavor power inverter works with any Toro 60V Max Flex-Force battery (not included).

The inverter converts DC battery power to AC. It has three outlet power options (USB-A port, USB-C port, and 120V outlet) to power portable lights, fans, and televisions. It will also charge cell phones, laptops, and more.

One online reviewer says, "Our phones are our lifelines these days, so when the power goes out or we're out in the field, it's nice to have this inverter around. Powers a lamp and charges my phone."

The inverter sells for \$119.99, and batteries range from \$134.99 to \$359.99. It's available at the Toro website and many other retailers



Power inverter uses Toro 60V battery and can supply lights, computers, and phones with power when regular power is not available.

including Tractor Supply and Amazon.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Toro (www.toro.com).