

Solar Home Update

Nov 09

Boiler pics



Boiler Repairs



Carcass of a bird plugged remaining hole that allowed smoke to get to chimney

Eating buttered toast



New Toy



Putting in plants is a snap



Engineering problem



How do you get a 350 pound mower deck from the concrete pad to the storage shed?

Answer: With Pallet Forks



Step 1: Lift deck onto a specially designed wheeled pallet



Step 2: Pick up with pallet forks

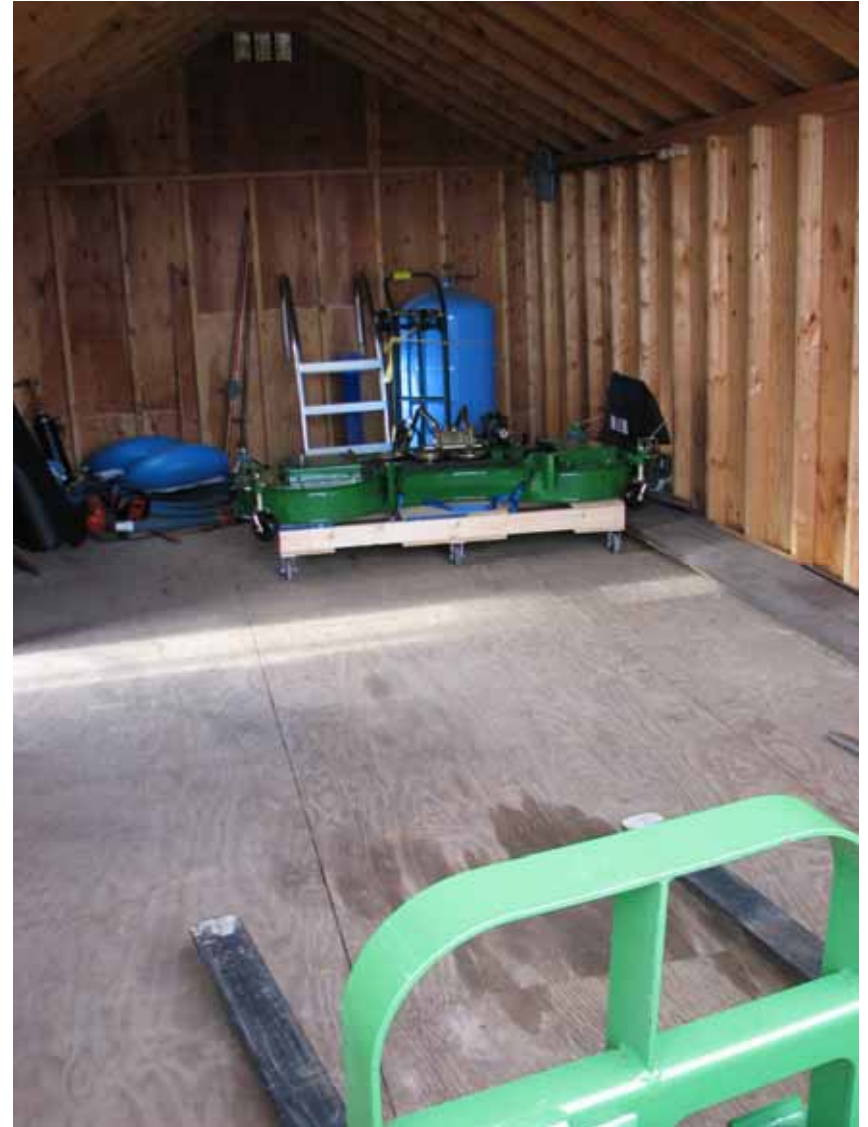


Step 3: Stow in shed.



The wheely pallet

- The wheels allow the pallet to be pushed around the shed.
- The shed only has 2x4 floor joists – so it will not support the weight of the tractor.



Good solar land



While the rest of the countryside is in darkness. My land and garage/workshop will still be warmed/illuminated by the setting sun for another 35 minutes

Morning after Halloween







Why John Deere?

- I looked at other makes (Kubota, Cub Cadet, Massey Ferguson, etc)
- JD outclassed the rest in terms of reliability, ergonomics, resale value, number of attachments (over 100), customer reviews, etc.
- Only JD has patented Quick Change features that allow attachments to be changed out quickly.



The attachments can be removed and re-attached quickly, by a single person, without any special tools

Mower deck: 1 minute

Front loader: 2 minutes

Back hoe: 10 minutes

?

- Its nice to have something American made that's top quality.
- I asked the dealer when John Deere was going to make automobiles. I didn't care if they only came in green. He said that the laws prohibit JD from entering the market.
 - I didn't persue the conversation, but the statement could mean a number of things:
 - 1) The federal safety standards and other regulations are so complex that a company entering the market for the first time would experience an expensive learning curve that would make their cars too expensive.
 - 2) The big three automakers have lobbied for regulations to help keep others from entering the market.