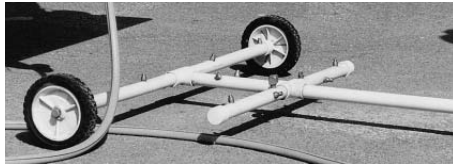


Idea Exchange

Underbody wash removes salt and sand

For a quick and easy way to remove salt and sand build-up beneath snow removal vehicles and equipment, try the underbody wash. It's effective, lightweight, rolls easily under vehicles, and helps prevent corrosion and wear and tear on parts.



The underbody wash was constructed by the City of Ankeny, Iowa, Public Works Department staff. They built it



using 1-inch PVC pipe, lawn mower wheels, and pressure nozzles. The wash is 105 inches long and 48 inches wide. It has two cross tubes with 15 pressure nozzles. The nozzles are adjusted to spray in various directions. The water pressure is generated by a gas-powered water pump.

For more information on the underbody wash, contact Dennis Guillaume, 515/965-6481.

Quick installation for snow fence posts

A novel technique for installing snow fence posts was reported by Bob Bembenek, Road Foreman, Town of Hull. They hang a Rhino Post Pounder from one end of an 8-foot-long, counter-weighted bar that is mounted on the side of a single axle dump truck. A platform



bolted to the back frame of the truck lets two people operate the pounder with power from a portable air compressor in the truck.

The truck moves along

the fence line, dragging a 10 foot rope with a flag at the end. The driver stops when the flag reaches the previous post. One crewman holds the next post while another swings the arm out and operates the hammer.

"We've been using this system for eight or nine years," says Bembenek. "In one day a crew of three can install enough posts for 250-300, 50-foot rolls of fence," he says.

For more information contact Bob Bembenek, 715/344-8280, or townofhull@g2a.net

Resources

Publications

The following publications are available free from the T.I.C. while supplies last.

SAFER Manual: Safety Evaluation for Roadways, T.I.C., 1996. Provides background information and offers an approach for reviewing safety conditions on local roads and streets. Safety rating scale helps with setting priorities and planning for immediate and future action.

UPDATED! Using Weight Limits to Protect Local Roads, No. 8, T.I.C., 2003. Describes the causes of spring weakness in roads and how heavy loads do damage. Gives guidelines for when and how to set seasonal and year round weight limits.

A Walkable Community is Much More Than Just Sidewalks, FHWA, 2000. This brochure lists typical pedestrian/vehicle conflicts and crash types along with suggested remedies for each. It unfolds into a color poster illustrating 22 measures that can improve pedestrian safety, including illustrations of traffic calming measures.

Gravel Roads Maintenance and Design Manual, FHWA and South Dakota LTAP, 2000. This manual provides a wealth of information on gravel road maintenance and rehabilitation techniques, drainage, dust control/stabilization, and innovative use of equipment for gravel road maintenance. Includes many color photographs and drawings to illustrate the techniques.

Websites

FHWA/AASHTO National Highway Specifications Website. www.specs.fhwa.dot.gov

A clearing house and electronic library where users can search, review, cross reference, and download current specifications and related documents from all state departments of transportation.

The South Dakota DOT Study "**Effects of Off-Road Equipment Tires on Flexible and Granular Pavements**" can be downloaded at: http://www.state.sd.us/Applications/HR19ResearchProjects/oneproject_search.asp?projectnbr=SD1999-15 (The report is 131 pp. or a 4.4 MB pdf file). An executive summary of the report is available from the T.I.C.

Videotapes

Videos are loaned free through county UW-Extension offices. Copies of the T.I.C. Video Lending Library Catalog are available on request (print) from the T.I.C. and online at <http://tic.engr.wisc.edu/>

NEW Cold In-Place Recycling of Asphalt Pavements with Self-Cementing Fly Ash. Wisconsin Electric, 12 min., 2002. #18619 An overview of fly ash stabilization on subgrade soils and recycled asphalt pavements. Demonstrates the process and highlights the benefits.

Crossroads

This newsletter provides information on roads and bridges to local officials and is published quarterly by the Wisconsin Transportation Information Center, part of the nationwide Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP). **Crossroads** is produced with assistance from the Federal Highway Administration, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

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