

RICHMOND FISHERIES

RICHMOND, ILLINOIS



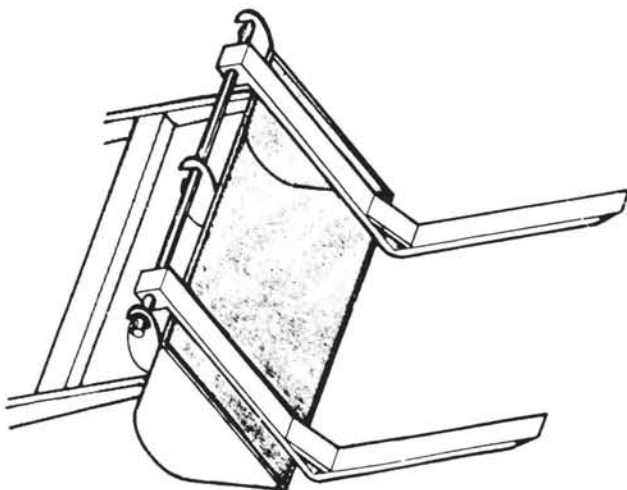
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A Maintenance Problem Solved

by Tony Rzadzick, Asst. Supt.
Cantigny Golf Club

Early last March my mechanic came to me with a legitimate gripe. "We need a better way to clean our equipment after the guys are done mowing or when they break down!"

Before March all that we had to clean our equipment with was one fire plug that we attached a one inch hose to, and a standard three-quarter inch garden hose valve off of our maintenance building. This caused a big problem. It seemed that everyday at quitting time; three, four, sometimes five guys would pull in and only one or two could clean their machine at the same time. Two or three guys would stand around for 15 or 20 minutes and wait. If it was time to punch out; well, the machine never got cleaned.

I decided that before this season started we would resolve this problem. So instead of one good line and three-quarter inch line with minimal pressure I came up with a manifold design with four one inch lines at 60 psi or better. I also stole an idea from the Evanston Golf Club and incorporated an overhead two inch pipe to fill our spray tanks. We can now fill a 300 gallon tank in 5 minutes.

Once I put my thoughts on paper I let our irrigation expert Dave Schlagetter loose. He and his partner Byron Ambrose piped and framed together a very functional and easy to maintain system.

Our water from this fire plug is potable and is pumped from our own irrigation system on our grounds. Dave also incorporated a drain to winterize our manifold also.

All in all this system is fairly easy to install near anyone's maintenance facility where ever irrigation, fire, or potable water is available under high pressure or large volume.

We used our potable fire line instead of our golf irrigation line just for the fact that if the irrigation system is shut down for a leak, winterizing in late fall, or if we haven't turned our system on in the spring yet; we can still clean our mowers.

We are all very pleased and satisfied with this maintenance problem solved. It really worked out well. If you have any questions, give us a call.

