

# Porta-pump eases manpower, back pain

By TERRY BUCHEN

Portable pumps are widely used on golf courses throughout the land, but they have their limitations.

We mounted our portable, three-inch "trash" pump on a small trailer used to transport mowers, sod cutters, rototillers, etc. Once it was mounted on the trailer, one person could hitch it up to a utility vehicle instead of two people lifting it onto and off a vehicle. The suction and discharge hoses fit easily onto the trailer and have quick-connects/disconnects for easy operation.

When central Ohio flooded last year, we had to pump parts of the golf course all night, and therefore were limited in how long the pump would run, which was usually 1-1/2 to 2 hours on the OEM gasoline tank. So, we searched for a larger, auxiliary gas tank through auto-parts stores, but couldn't quite find one that we really liked.

At an automobile racing supply store we finally found a 12-gallon, hardened fiberglass,



Terry Buchen photo

The portable pump assembly put together at Double Eagle Club in Galena, Ohio.

gravity gasoline tank that was painted red for safety. It is waterproof from the elements, with a twist-type fuel cap, and is properly vented with a quarter-inch hydraulic-type black hose that exits toward the bottom of the trailer.

Our mechanic built the black support frame by welding together one-inch angle iron. The tank frame is bolted to the trailer in case it ever needs to be removed.

The auxiliary fuel tank is hooked to the pump engine

with an automotive-type quarter-inch black rubber fuel line, with an automobile-type fuel filter and a fuel shutoff petcock.

We carry a one-quart plastic bottle of oil to refill the engine if it uses even the slightest amount of oil.

For safety, the linch-type pin on the trailer hitch is spring-loaded as the spring hooks onto the bottom of the pin so it won't come loose during transport.

Instead of using two employ-



## ON THE GREEN

ees to move the pump to the site needing to be drained, the utility vehicle can easily back up to the water.

The pump uses about one to 1-1/2 gallons of fuel per hour, so the 12-gallon tank will run all night. The OEM tank is shut off with a petcock valve, but can be turned on for use any time simply by turning off the petcock valve from the 12-gallon tank and turning on the OEM valve.

A small plastic bucket with metal handle is also on the trailer to prime the pump with water.

Similar applications for the trailer include mounting an electric generator or welder, powered with a gasoline engine, with the same auxiliary fuel tank attached.

# Penn Turf Council re-elects Snyder

Samuel Snyder VII of Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Del., has been re-elected president of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council at the organization's annual meeting. Michael Zedreck, Pittsburgh Field Club, Pittsburgh, Pa., was re-elected first vice-president. Barry Grote, The Scotts Company-Proturf Division, Pittsburgh, Pa., was re-elected second vice-president.

Michael Smith, Gulph Mills Golf Club, King of Prussia, Pa., was re-elected secretary-treasurer. John Yakubisin of Rolling Rock Club, Ligonier, Pa., serves as the past president, and Christine King, Bellefonte, Pa., is the executive director.

The Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the improvement of the entire turfgrass industry. Its intent is to organize all those in turfgrass into one strong organization that is representative of the entire industry.

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