



PARK PRACTICE

VOLUME 14
NUMBER 1

Grist

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THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STATE PARKS, INC.
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, National Park Service
NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION



HELP CREATE GREATER HIGHWAY SAFETY CONSCIOUSNESS

The National Capital Parks of the National Park Service in a recent safety bulletin called attention to a provision added to the Broadcasting Code which represents a dramatic breakthrough in enforcement of traffic safety procedures and the spread of greater safety consciousness nationwide. This provision declares it inconsistent with the National Highway Safety Standards and a violation of the Broadcasting Code to televise commercials, and children and adult programs depicting car crashes, speeding, nonuse of safety belts, and other unsafe driving practices as amusing, thrilling, romantic, justifiable, or even acceptable. Also prohibited, emphatically, is the portrayal of drinking and driving in any kind of favorable light.

This new policy, if adequately enforced, should help destroy the long-popular notion that unsafe driver and vehicle practices are acceptable and attractive in our society. Considering the impact television has on the public, particularly children and young adults, the safety provision in the code can be a giant step forward in accident reduction.

Since the broadcasting industry, through the National Association of Broadcasters, is able to monitor only a few of the many TV commercials and programs, many organizations, such as the National Safety Council, have agreed to assist the Association. You can help too by looking for and reporting any of the following situations which are violations of the Code.

1. Motorcycle riders without helmets or goggles.
2. Operators or passengers in cars of 1968 vintage or later failing to use shoulder and seat belts.
3. Children standing or moving about in moving vehicles.
4. Cars loaded to the rooftop with luggage or other paraphernalia so that vision is obstructed.
5. Drag racing, drunken driving, and deliberate speeding or disobedience of

traffic signs and signals.

6. Inattentive driving.
7. Driving vehicles that are in an unsafe condition.

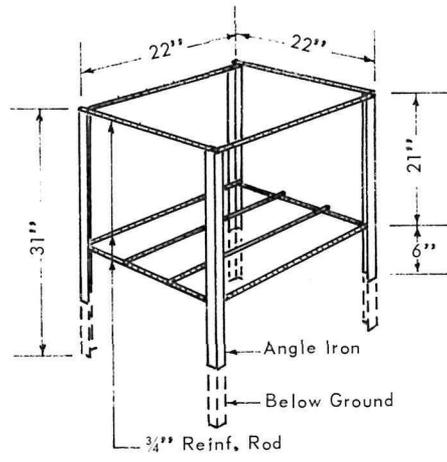
When reporting violations give the following information.

1. Television station
2. Date
3. Time
4. Program
5. Sponsor
6. Nature of violation

Send all pertinent information to Donald C. Lhotka, Secretary, Committee on Safety Belt Usage of the Traffic Conference, National Safety Council, 425 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611, and he will forward it to the National Association of Broadcasters.

LYKES LIKES THIS GARBAGE CAN HOLDER

Ira B. Lykes, former chief of Park Practice and now consultant at Lake City Junior College, Lake City, Florida, keeps both eyes open for ideas for GRIST.



Here is an idea for a garbage can holder which he saw at Roadrunner Campground, Alpine, Texas. The square metal frame holder is imbedded in the ground six inches. The handles of GI cans could be chained to the top of the frame, and in this case, a liner would help the pickup men.

The cans will not blow over and are protected from backing trailers. Also, as the photograph shows, the frame provides some protection for utility outlets.

The holder should be painted to preserve it.



GLOWING WORDS

Those daylight-bright, vivid, and glo-in-the dark, eye-catching colors are available in a line called Glo-Brite and Nite-Brite.

For posters and other interior uses there are fluorescent psychedelic water colors in nine colors and white. These water based paints provide extra-strong daylight fluorescence, and they also fluoresce brilliantly under black light, the maker says. An added advantage is that they can be washed off.

Glo-Brite artists' paper and pads are available, providing nine bright daylight fluorescent colors on paper which also give a neon-like glow when used under black light.

Nite-Brite luminous paint which glows in the dark for use on safety signs is available in phosphorescent blue or green.

Glo-Scrink is a weather-proof screen process ink suitable for outdoor and indoor use on signs and decorations.

Product prices and other information are available from the manufacturer, Craftint, 18501 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44112

PARK PRACTICE GRIST

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STAINING AND PAINTING TIME SAVERS

The use of rollers and sprayers in the application of paint and stain has become increasingly prevalent in parks as elsewhere. Here are some suggestions made by Richard A. Taylor laborer at Pine Grove Furnace State Park in Pennsylvania, for painting interior and exterior surfaces of buildings, posts, rails, and the like.

Use a long-handled roller when painting floors with Polyastics Poly-U #16 (use brush on edges and corners). The roller covers faster and better than a brush alone, and that long handle certainly saves wear and tear on the back and knees.

Use a roller and long-handled extension, when necessary, for applying redwood stain to smooth wood surfaces (finished lumber, plywood, hardboard), both side-walls and soffit (use of a ladder and constant repositioning of it are eliminated). Stain is difficult to "hold" in a brush and constantly runs down the user's brush and arm; the proper roller "holds" the stain well.

Use a garden sprayer to apply creosote and stain (standard mixture plus burnt

NATIONAL AUDIOVISUAL CENTER

You can obtain a catalogue with sale and rental prices of most government motion pictures, film strips, audio and video tapes, and other audiovisual materials, from a central information sales and distribution point known as the National Audiovisual Center.

The Center, a division of the National Archives and Records Service, General Services Administration, provides information on audiovisual materials produced by or for Federal agencies and where and

how they can be obtained. It serves as the central sales point for most government audiovisual items, and the catalogue describes over 3,000 films and filmstrips. It also provides a loan service, primarily of 16mm motion pictures of the various agencies.

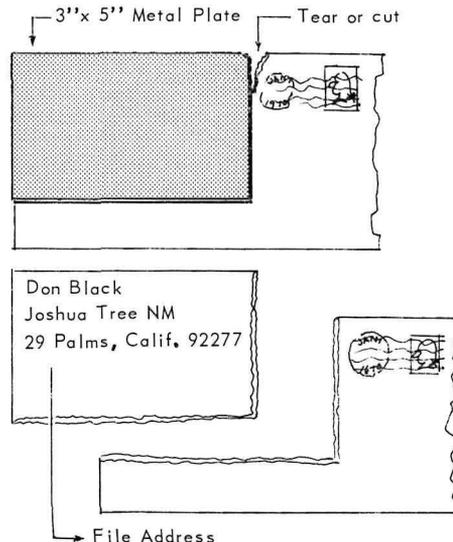
For further information write to: National Audiovisual Center, National Archives and Records Service (GSA), Washington, D.C. 20409 or call either William Wilson Taylor, Chief Information Officer or Leslie Greenberg, Information Officer, Area Code 301 -- 440-7714 for catalogue and prices.

umber or lamp black tint) to posts, rails, and buildings. Some paint brush follow-up is required. Spraying is about three times faster than brushing.

Dick adds a word of caution: When spraying creosote and stain, goggles and a respirator are to be worn. All materials must be thoroughly mixed then strained before use in a sprayer, and the sprayer must be cleaned after each day's use.

HANDY ADDRESS COLLECTOR

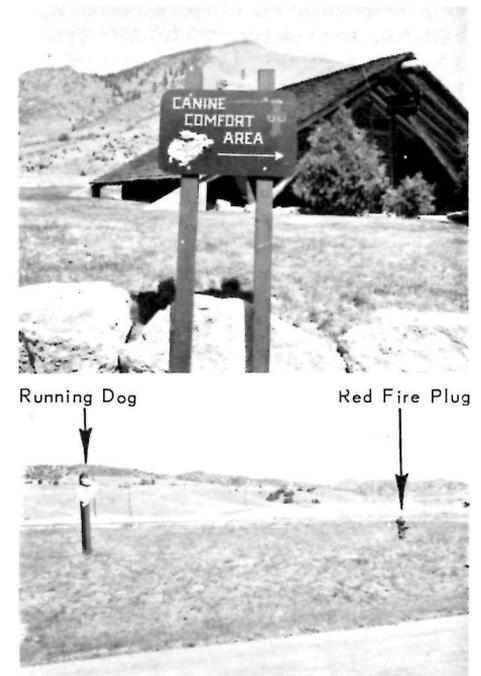
Keep a 3" x 5" piece of metal in your desk to use when you want to save an address or a subject reference. If it's an address in the corner of an envelope, lay the metal on the corner and tear around it—there you have a 3 x 5 slip all ready to put into your file without any typing.



This time-saving idea comes from Donald M. Black, chief park naturalist, Joshua Tree National Monument.

VISITOR COMFORT—
CANINE DEPARTMENT

At Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park in Montana, visitor enjoyment and comfort have high priority—and that goes for four-footed as well as two-footed creatures. Peggy Reynolds, "Gal of All Trades" of the Park staff, and also of the Sign Shop



staff at Whitehall, knows a city dog's symbol for a comfort station, and so she proceeded to make certain that he'd feel right at home at Lewis and Clark.

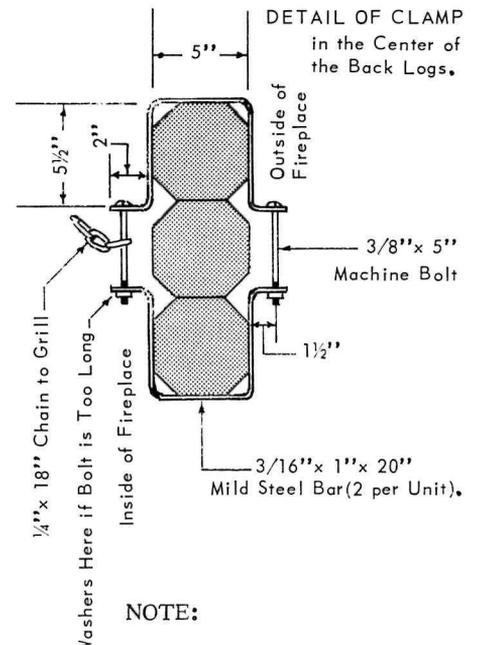
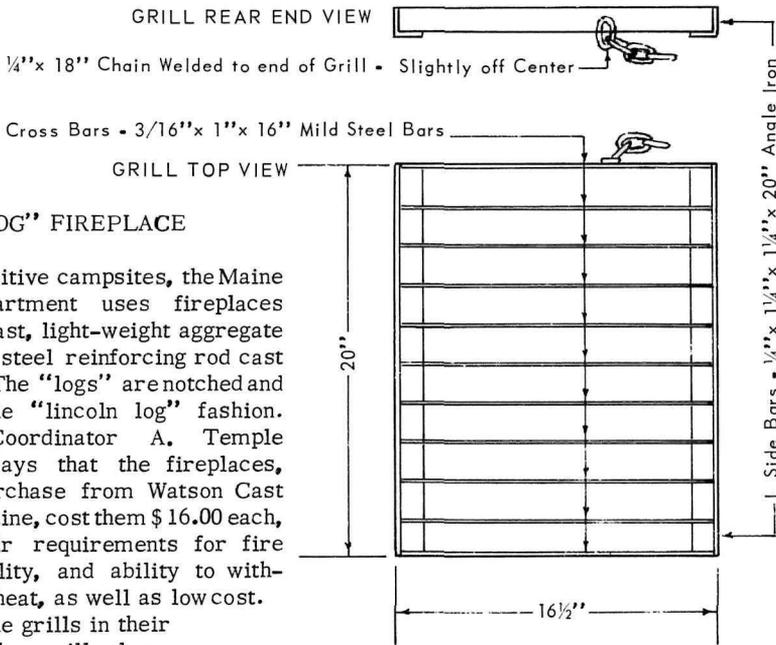
On the sign, "Canine Comfort Area" is a picture of the familiar red fire plug, and right out there beyond it is the real thing—all the comforts of home!

PRE-CAST "LOG" FIREPLACE

At their primitive campsites, the Maine Forestry Department uses fireplaces made of pre-cast, light-weight aggregate "logs" with a steel reinforcing rod cast into each one. The "logs" are notched and interlock in the "lincoln log" fashion.

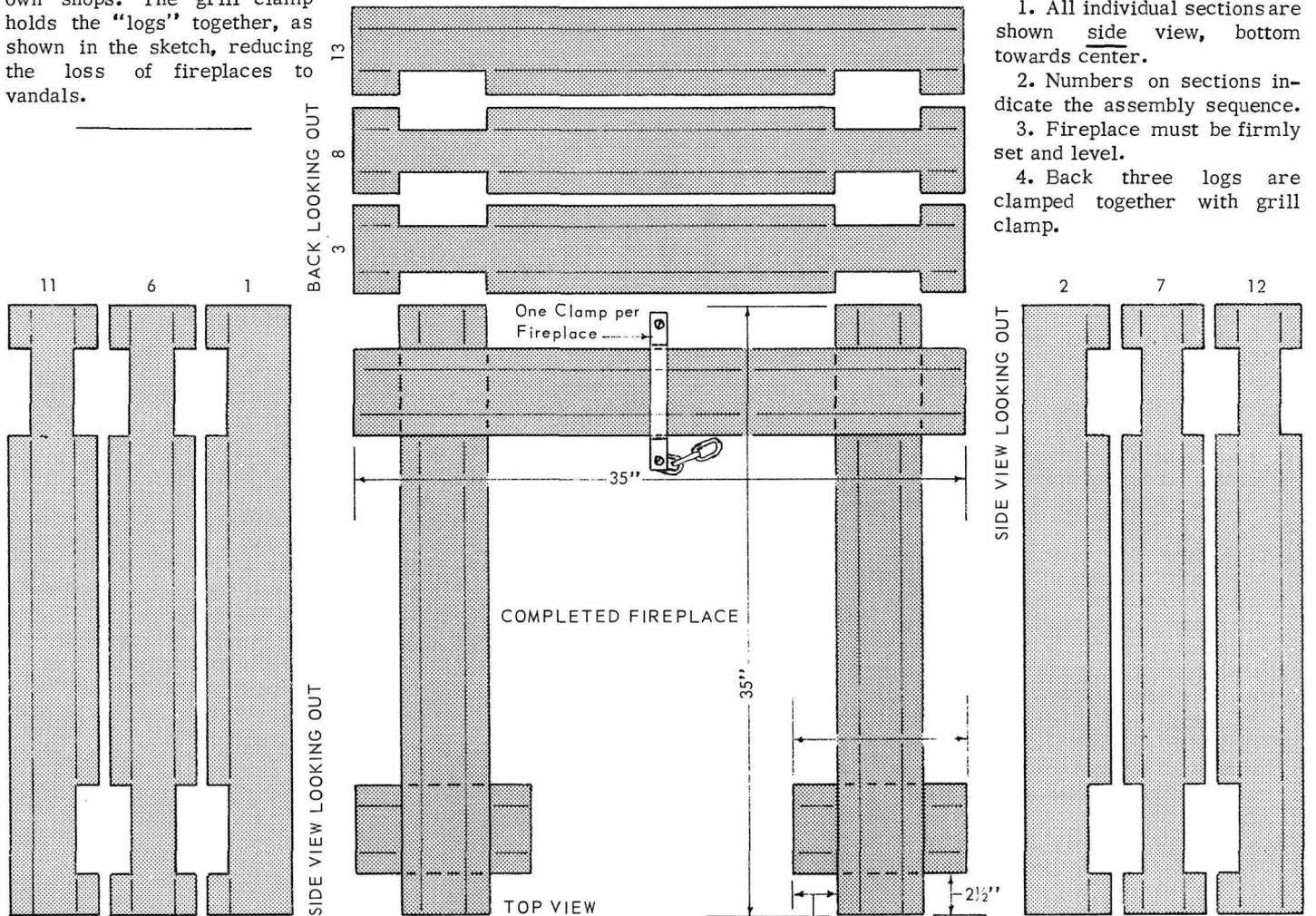
Campsite Coordinator A. Temple Bowen, Jr., says that the fireplaces, which they purchase from Watson Cast Stone, Gray, Maine, cost them \$16.00 each, and meet their requirements for fire safety, portability, and ability to withstand extreme heat, as well as low cost.

They make the grills in their own shops. The grill clamp holds the "logs" together, as shown in the sketch, reducing the loss of fireplaces to vandals.



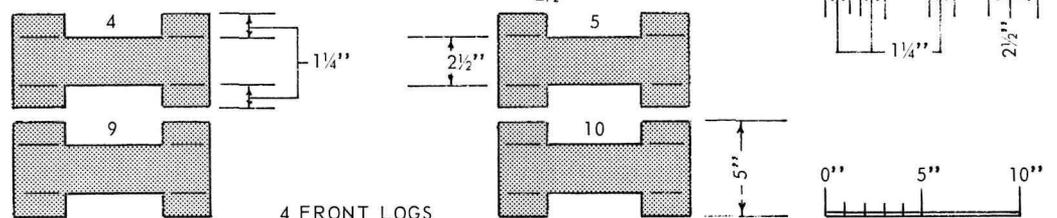
NOTE:

1. All individual sections are shown side view, bottom towards center.
2. Numbers on sections indicate the assembly sequence.
3. Fireplace must be firmly set and level.
4. Back three logs are clamped together with grill clamp.



MATERIALS FOR GRILL & CLAMP:

- 11 - cross bars
- 2 - L side bars
- 2 - Clamp bars
- 2 - 3/8 x 5" bolt
- 1 - Chain 1/4" x 18"

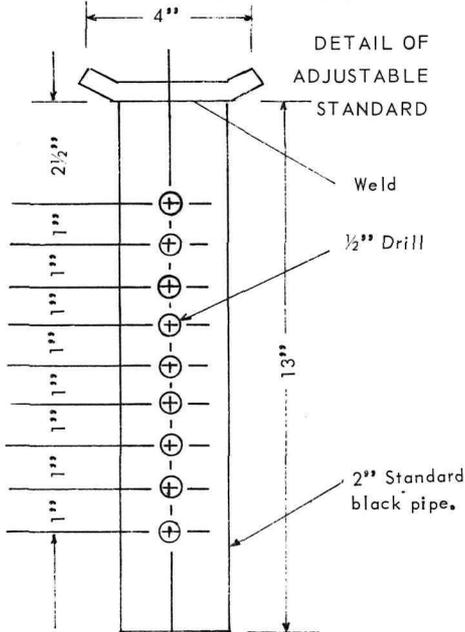


4 FRONT LOGS

SHOP STAND

To Texas A&M University goes the credit for this shop stand. Instructions for construction appeared in the March 1968 issue of Teaching Material Center Newsletter.

1. Mark and cut all pieces to length.
2. Wrap the 2 1/2" piece of pipe with a thin piece of cardboard or paper and mark the circumference of pipe on the paper. Fold the piece of paper into

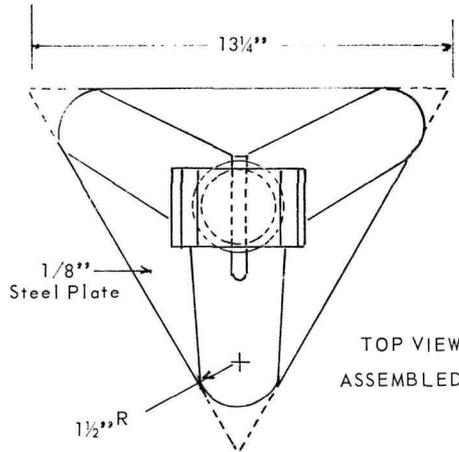


three equal lengths, then wrap paper back around pipe and mark the pipe into three equal sections, marking at each fold of the paper.

3. Use a piece of angle iron to serve as a guide for the cutting torch tip when cutting out legs of stand.
4. Heat pipe at upper end of cut to bend out each leg of stand.
5. Use grinder to smooth out each leg of stand after cutting.
6. Mark out and cut 1/8" flat plate to dimension shown and weld to legs of stand.
7. Drill the 1/2" holes in the 2" pipe by securing pipe in vise or V notch cut in a scrap piece of lumber.
8. Bend 3/8"x2"x4" flat iron and weld to end of 2" pipe; be sure flat plate is welded at right angles to holes drilled in pipe.
9. Cut 7/16"x4" pin and taper end; drill 3/32" hole in end for securing chain to pin. A hog ring is ideal for securing chain to pin.
10. Drill and tap a small hole to secure chain to body of pipe stand.
11. Weld 3/4" nut to bottom of plate under each leg if base does not sit flat on floor.
12. Prime stand with a rust inhibiting paint.
13. After primer coat of paint has dried, paint with a suitable metal enamel.

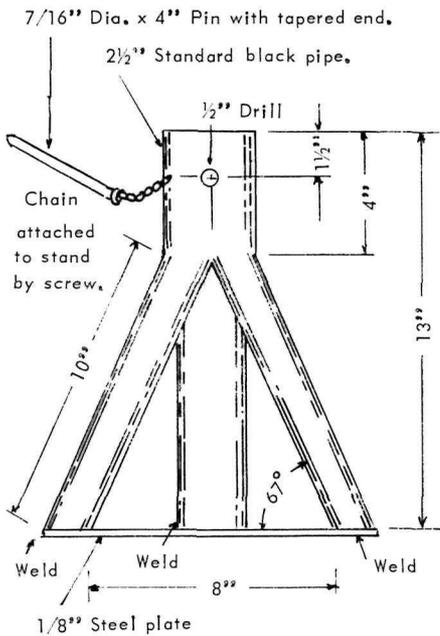
Bill of Material

- 1 - 2 1/2"x14" pipe
- 1 - 2"x13" pipe
- 1 - 3/8"x2"x4" flat iron
- 1 - 1/8"x13 1/4"x13 1/4" triangular flat plate
- 1 - 7/16"x4" round iron
- 1 - 6" length of small chain



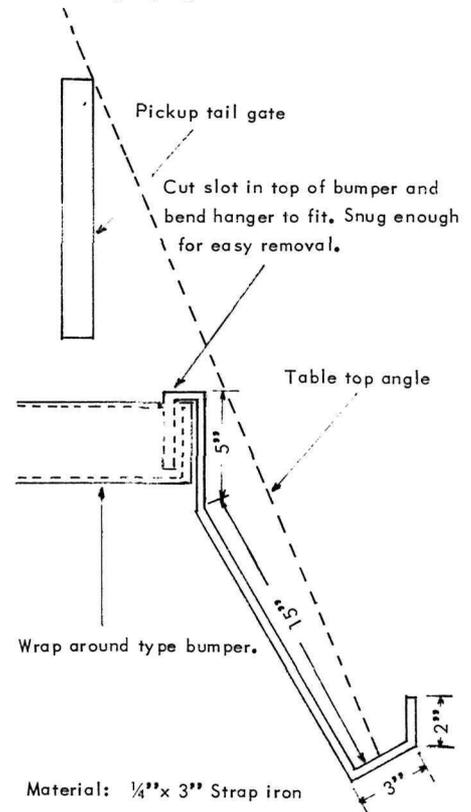
TOP VIEW ASSEMBLED

SIDE VIEW



ONE-MAN TABLE MOVING

Alone in the park for the winter, Manager Marne S. Hudson, Goose Lake State Park, in Oregon, was faced with the problem of moving some picnic tables. Before the bad weather set in they had to be moved from a high water area, and some needed to go to the shop for repair. He devised the pair of hangers, shown in the sketch and photographs, which attach to the wrap-around bumpers of the truck. See sketch and accompanying notes for details.



Material: 1/4"x3" Strap iron

Since the photographs were taken, Marne has wrapped the hangers to provide protection for the table tops, and he throws an old rug over the tailgate to protect it from rubbing. Place the hangers 32" apart to outside edges for 36" table tops to stabilize and prevent side sway, and with careful driving on level ground the tables will ride without tying, Marne says.



**DRYING WATER PIPE
BEFORE SOLDERING**

It's an exasperating job trying to get all the water or steam from drained water lines in order to make a solidly soldered joint. Superintendent Alfred W. Wagner, Greenwood Furnace State Park in Pennsylvania, offers a tip.

A bit of dry bread lightly tamped into the pipe on either side of the joint will absorb those annoying trickles of water or steam which prevent the solder from setting firmly. The dry bread will disintegrate when the water is turned on and be flushed through the water system. If the water system contains any strainers or filters they may have to be cleaned when the residue gets to them. This is usually a simple job, however, and takes only a few minutes compared to hours often spent trying to dry out lines.

A few words of caution: use dry bread and no crusts. Fresh bread could plug the system with dough balls or clods of bread crust.

**INSTALLING TRAFFIC COUNTER
ON GRAVEL ROAD**

Park Manager Gary Patzke, Big Foot Beach State Park, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, offers a solution to the installation of traffic counters on gravel roads, using a 2 x 4.



Cut two edges of a 2 x 4 at a 45 degree angle (to prevent stones from working up under the counter cord). Drill 3/4" holes through the 4" face of the 2 x 4. Drive one foot sections of 3/4" pipe through these holes until they are flush with the face of the 2 x 4. Sink the pipes and the 2 x 4 to about 1/2" above ground level as shown in photos. Fasten the counter cord on the 2 x 4 with rubber strips cut from an inner tube.

TIME-SAVER FLOOR WAXING METHOD

By using a mop and bucket to apply floor polish, a 60 percent time saving has been achieved at Ginkgo State Park, Vantage, Washington. Assistant Park Ranger Robert S. McCoy reports this time and money saving over the previous method which used sponge or lamb's wool applicators.

A bucket with foot wringer and a screw-type mop with a cotton head are required.

The steps in this method are as follows:

Step 1. Pour a small amount of wax or polish into the clean bucket—not too much as it cannot be returned to the container and used again.

Step 2. Dip the mop head into the polish and wring out the excess. This also eliminates troublesome bubbles.)

Step 3. Apply polish to the floor.

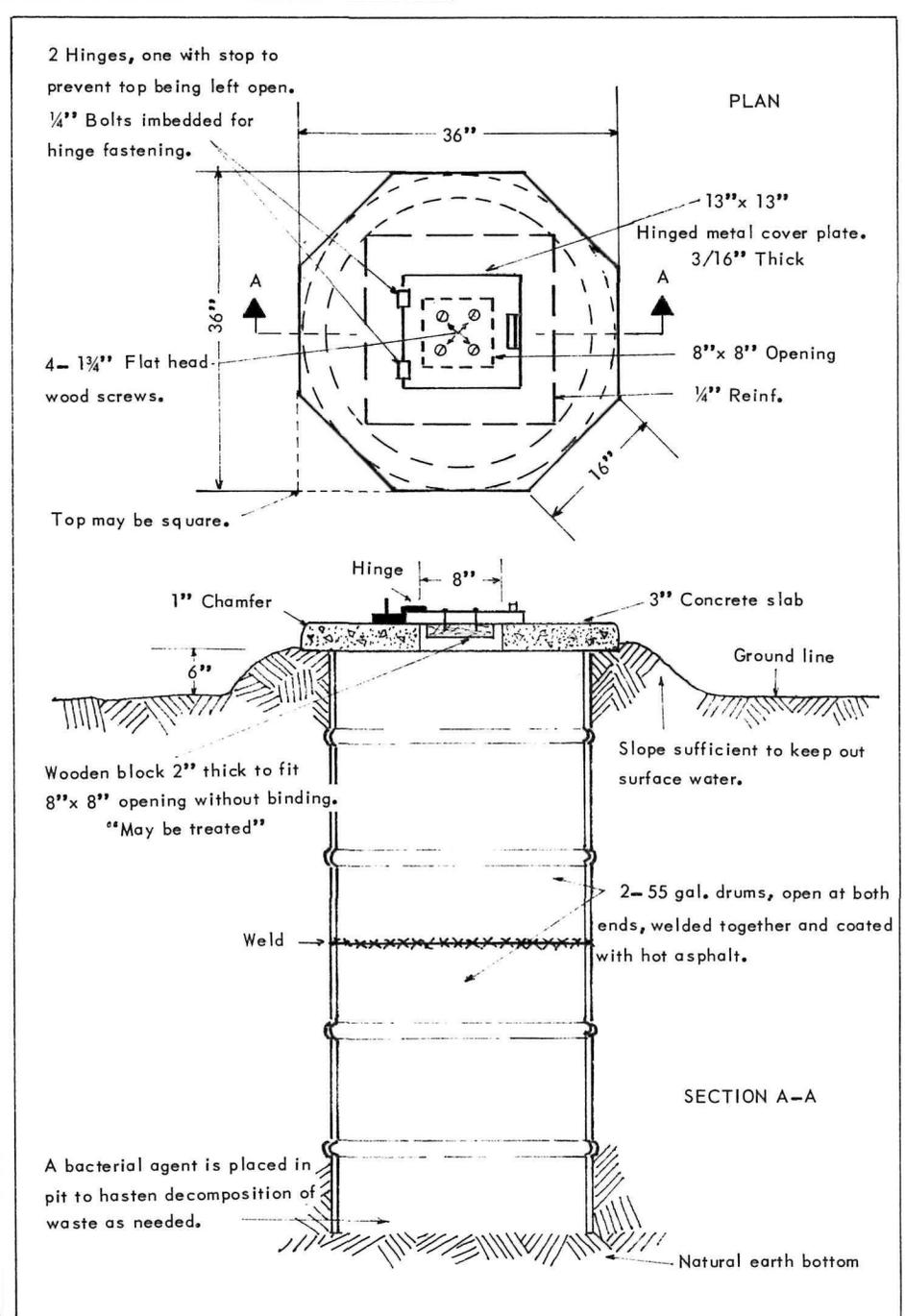
Step 4. Always wash out the mop and bucket with a diluted solution of wax stripper to prevent hardening and build-up.

When a mop head becomes dirty or has a build-up of wax it should be replaced (usually after 10 or 12 applications). This method works equally well with either wax or polymer floor finishes.

WET GARBAGE DISPOSAL UNIT

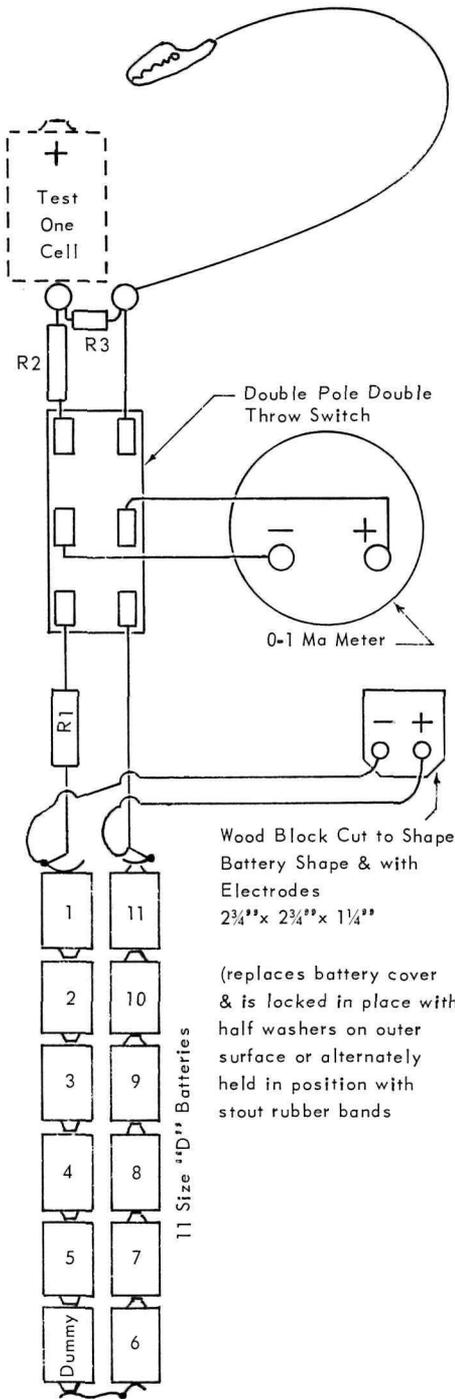
From the Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Civil Works, comes this plan for an outdoor wet garbage disposal unit which would be suitable for use in campgrounds. Prior approval of the unit by the Health Department of the state in which it was to be constructed would be necessary, it should be noted.

The pit disposal uses concrete or "orangeburg" pipe or two 55-gallon drums open at both ends, welded together, and coated with hot asphalt (see notes accompanying plan specifications for details). A bacterial agent is placed on the natural earth bottom to hasten decomposition of the waste.



SUBSTITUTE BATTERY PACK FOR HANDLE TALKIE

Want to save some battery replacement money? Replacements for Motorola Model H23 DEN Handie Talkie cost \$ 8.00 and are not readily available in the field. Henry Oberg, electronic engineer, Western

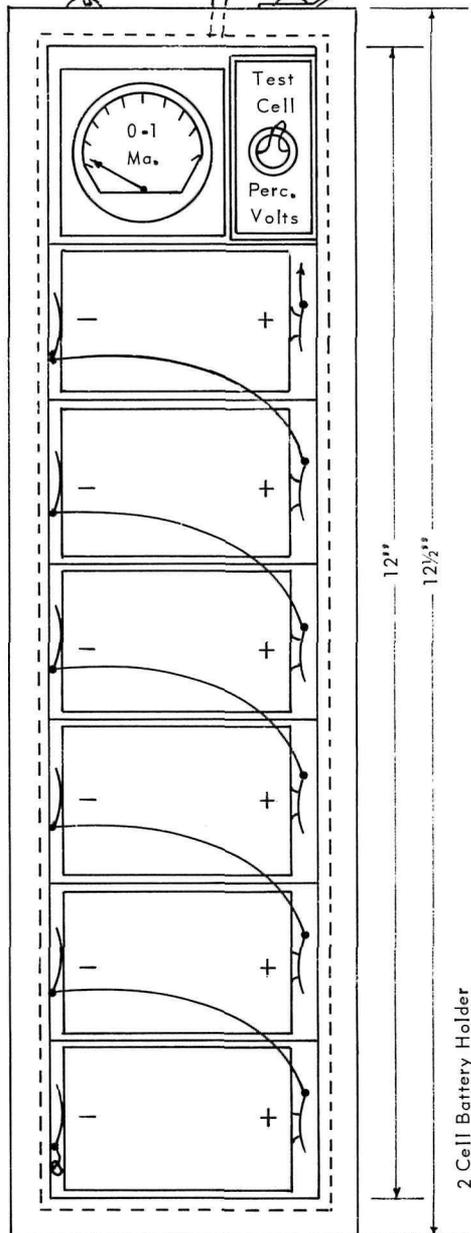
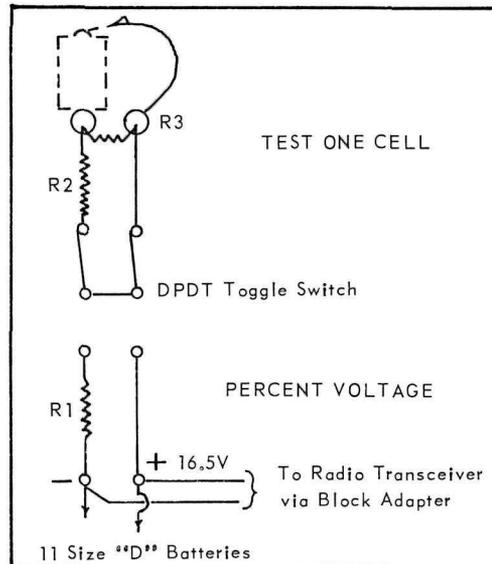
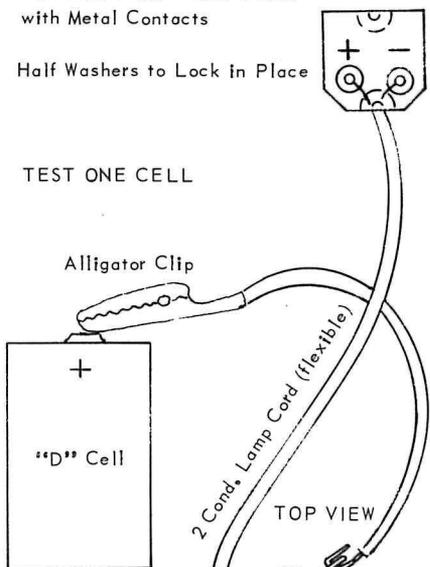


Wood Block Cut to Shape Battery Shape & with Electrodes
 2 3/4" x 2 3/4" x 1 1/4"
 (replaces battery cover & is locked in place with half washers on outer surface or alternately held in position with stout rubber bands)

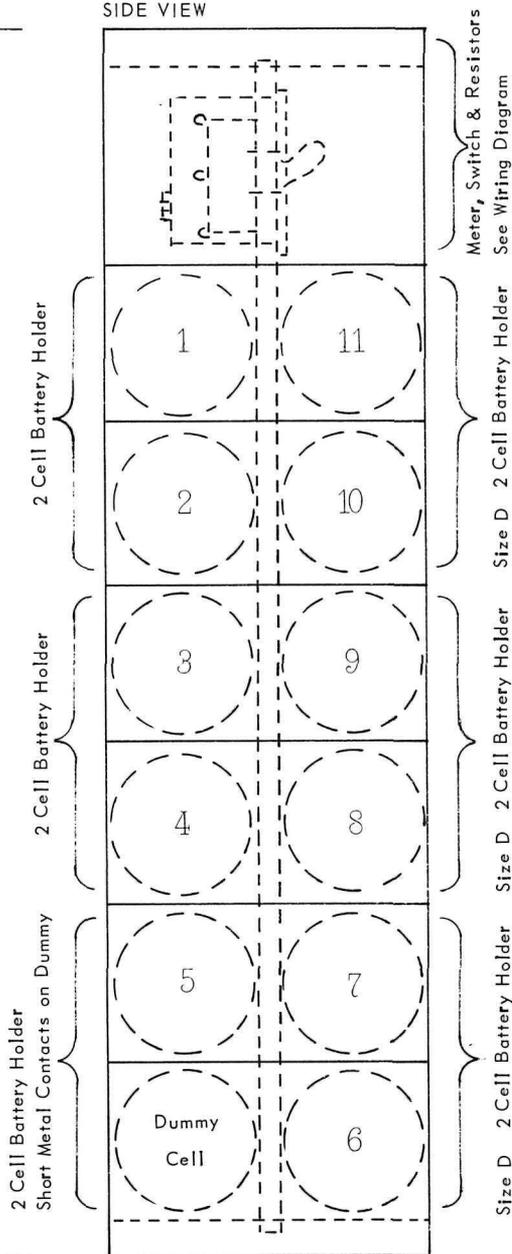
2 3/4" x 2 3/4" x 1 1/4" Wood Block with Metal Contacts

Half Washers to Lock in Place

TEST ONE CELL



SIDE VIEW



Service Center, NPS, makes the following suggestion for a substitute battery pack.

Two-cell battery holders are mounted to a 1/4" plywood panel, back-to-back as shown in the sketch, and wired in series. All batteries should face with the positive terminal toward the right, or left if desired, as determined by looking down on the batteries with the meter at the top.

Metered Battery Power Supply for H23DEN Radio Transceiver & Single Cell Battery Tester.

Construction is relatively easy. Wiring is very simple, and no doubt, the help of a radio amateur or electrician could be enlisted if desired. Battery polarity must be observed. If properly wired, the meter will read up-scale-100 percent with new batteries when the transceiver is keyed, or not keyed, with the toggle switch in the "Percent Voltage" position. If batteries are reversed, the meter will try to read backwards. The radio technician should verify connections and polarity prior to initial installation to avoid reversed polarity and consequent damage to the radio set.

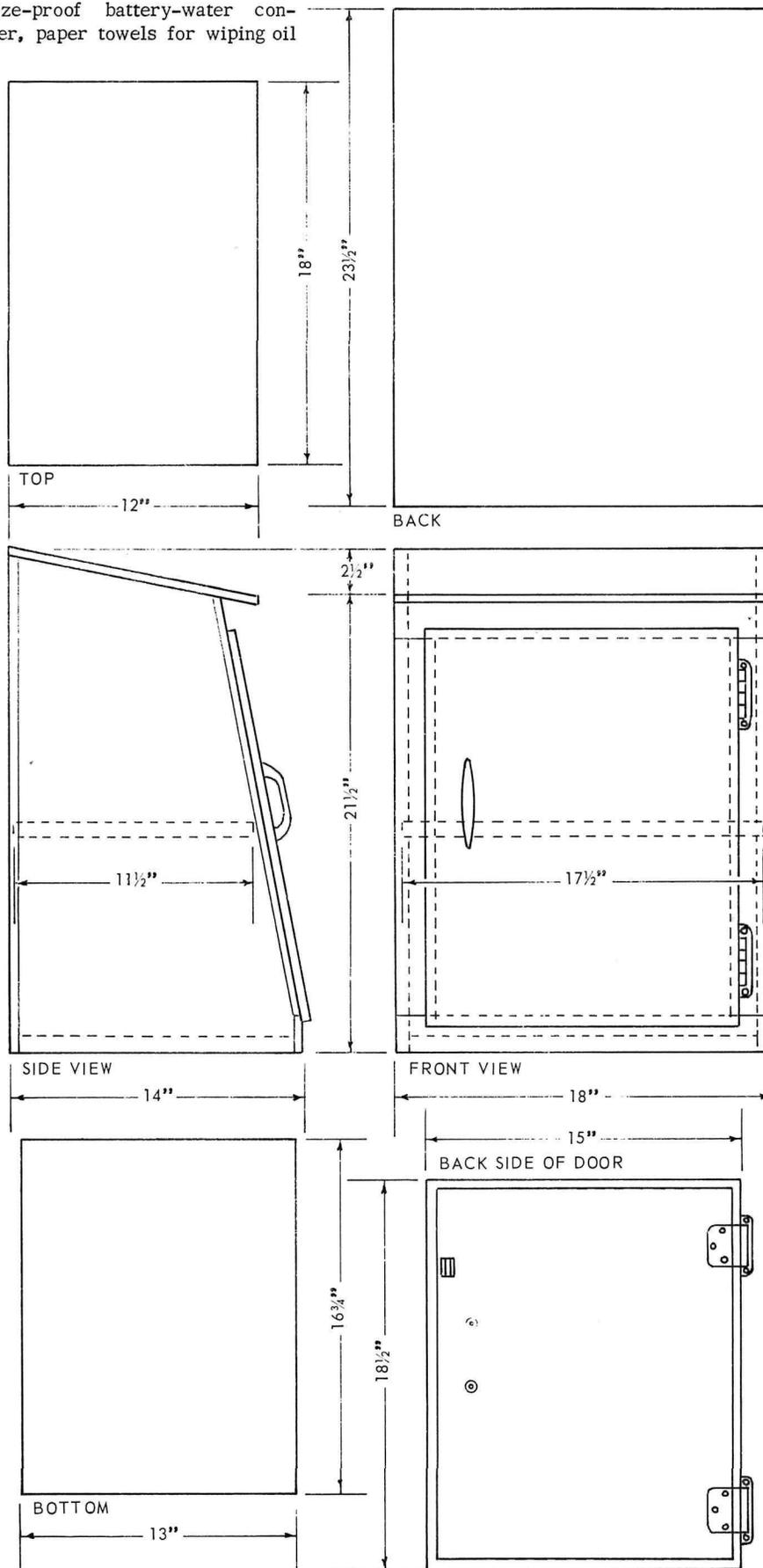
The substitute pack is slightly larger than the transceiver with which it is used and some additional weight is added, but you may feel the savings is worth these disadvantages. "D" size batteries are available on GSA Schedule at 6 cents each, making the cost for 11 cells 66 cents—and this replaces a battery which costs \$ 8.00. The device provides a voltmeter, calibrated in percent voltage. When the voltage drops to about 65 percent, the batteries are replaced with new ones. It also includes a feature for testing individual batteries. This calibration is also in percent voltage, and this range includes a load register so the individual cell is tested under load.

CONVENIENT CAR CADDY

Maintenance Foreman Norris Fields, Sr., Petersburg National Battlefield, found that a wooden car caddy or cabinet which he designed and placed on an outside wall

near the oil storage area was a convenience and a time saver for the ranger force and office personnel. The caddy is kept supplied with glass cleaner, clean rags for windshield cleaning, freeze-proof battery-water container, paper towels for wiping oil

dip stick and hands, a couple of quarts of motor oil, and a clip board with the gasoline and oil record sheet. Everything right at hand.



YES—A PAPER HOUSE!

When a house was cold and drafty people used to say, "This house is made of paper." But today's building really made of paper is snug and dry. What used to be a complaint may become a boast. What started out as a solution to temporary low cost housing has taken on characteristics of permanency and more general usage and acceptability.

Universal Papertech Corporation produces the economical and attractive modular building system shown in the photographs.

The paper is chemically impregnated



board 5/16" thick covered outside after erection with glass fiber and resin (like a boat). Inside it is painted with an intumescent coating said to withstand heat to 1,900 F. Flame spread is zero, and chemical coating resists water, vermin, mold, and decay.

A basic unit is 20' x 21' 6" at the base, has a minimum 8' ceiling, and weighs 450 pounds. This is an advantage where shelter must be packed to remote areas. It comes complete with windows and doors, packed in boxes that can be hauled in a station wagon.

Erection of the Unikraft structure is simple. Three workers can erect a unit in about eight hours. Except for the end pieces which are tapered to fit the slope of the roof, all pieces are identical and interchangeable. The end pieces are assembled flat on the floor and stapled together with a pneumatic gun. The assembled end is then lifted into place and nailed to the floor under a wood batten. Cleats nailed to the outside edge of the floor serve as stops for the side pieces as they are raised and stapled together in succession. The joints between the side and roof pieces are reinforced by paper gussets. Holes through the T sections accommodate wooden pegs which insure proper alignment until the sections are stapled together. Window and door frames are attached by screws to pre-cut boards stapled together.

After the house is erected it can be covered with glass fiber and resin, sprayed with concrete, or covered with siding. Roofs can be shingled, but don't have to be. Cost of a basic unit is about \$800. Inter-

ior finishes of a variety of types cost \$160. Another \$400 buys a factory made center core which serves as a room divider while incorporating a shower, toilet, kitchen sink, two-burner electric stove, 4 cu. ft. refrigerator, light electrical harness, closet, and a space for a heating unit. Since a single center core will serve a number of the basic units, it is possible to purchase materials for a 1,400 sq. ft., three-wing building for about \$3,000, a little more than \$2 per sq. ft. (about \$5 per sq. ft. finished cost, or about half the cost of a comparable wood frame building). When three basic 400 sq. ft. units are set together like the spokes of a wheel, about 200 sq. ft. are picked up at the hub.

Modules could be used singly or combined in L, T, or spoke shapes to produce park offices, exhibit buildings, information centers, storage shed, camp stores, and cottages.

For additional information write the Universal Papertech Corp., Hatfield, Pa.

HAZARDOUS BATHROOM FIXTURES

George H. Woolsey, architect with the Western Service Center, National Park Service, warns against bathroom fixtures made of fiber glass or other flammable material not proven to be fireproof by the manufacturer.

George says that fires have caused a considerable amount of damage and personal injuries when soldering torches have started fires, igniting bath tubs and shower stalls while piping was being installed. One such fire caused an estimated \$600,000 damage and five minor injuries.

Prohibiting the use of such potentially dangerous fixtures unless proven to be fireproof could eliminate a serious fire hazard in park and concessioner buildings.

HIGHER VISIBILITY
FOR BOUNDARY MARKERS

Robert J. Ferris, supervisory park ranger, Craters of the Moon National Monument suggests the use of fluorescent orange paint to make boundary markers more visible.

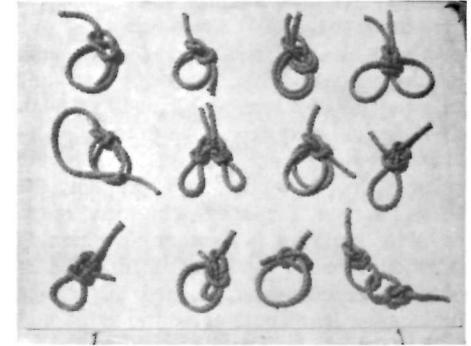
Visibility is increased to such a degree that hunters and herders are much less

likely to miss the signs and unknowingly enter the park. When violations do occur, the visibility of signs could be a factor in court.

Bob suggests spraying the paint right over the message as it is transparent and will not decrease readability. A fairly heavy coat is recommended to insure a long lasting paint job.

BOATERS—KNOW YOUR BOWLINES

"Every boater should know the different kinds of bowlines," says Ed Fahey, senior park manager, Cherry Creek Recreation Area in Denver, Colorado.



To help along their education Ed prepared the exhibit shown in the photo. The bowlines are:

Top row left to right

Inside bowline, Outside bowline, Bowline on the bight, Double bowline

Middle row

Running bowline, Spanish bowline, Tugboat bowline

Bottom row

Rigger bowline, Slipknot bowline, Ring bowline, Two bowlines

THE SURVIVAL KIT



Jim Burnett