

Snow Fence Roller

For more information:

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What was the challenge you set out to solve?

Page County has increased the use of snow fence during the winter season and its placement and removal is very labor intensive. We were seeking a better method to take down snow fence in the spring. Rolling snow fence up neatly is particularly troublesome.

How did you develop and implement your solution?

The Maintenance Superintendent had an idea about how to make fence removal easier. We needed a powered rotating spindle to wrap the snow fence into a coil again. We have several skid steer machines and various attachments for them. One of the attachments is a post hole digger, therefore a hydraulic powered rotating power source. Using a piece of equipment, we already have for another task reduces the cost of our solution and makes the machine more versatile.

What did it take to make this solution a reality?

Using the hydraulic motor output shaft as a rotating power source which we already had available, we fastened on a 3" O.D. x 6' long steel pipe with a bolt. Then we took it to field locations where we had placed snow fence in the late fall. After we separated the fence from the posts and threaded a post thru the end of the fence to keep it flat and provide a little weight. Finally, we wound the snow fence up on the pipe using hydraulic power. It was fast and worked very well.

What was the cost of implementation?

\$13.00 = cost of the pipe and bolt \$20.00 labor/ shop time to cut and drill pipe. Very simple and low cost.

What was the impact and results of your efforts?

We picked up 2000 feet of snow fence at 4 different locations in 1 day with only 3 employees. Normally, it would have taken 3 days with 4 employees. Given the minimal cost of the snow fence roller, the return on investment of this device was huge. This saves much labor. It is such an absolutely simple device, we are amazed at how well it works. Additionally, the snow fence coil is very neat and compact.

Video Link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/rwajeli2rfu08k1/Page%20County%20Iowa%20%20%20%20Fence%20Roller.mp4?dl=0>

