

CONTACT: Town of Vernon Jeff Schambach
Town of Vernon Public Works Department
375 Hartford Turnpike
Vernon, CT 06066
(860) 870-3500
jschambach@vernon-ct.gov

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

The use of winter de-icing chemicals was having a tremendous corrosive effect on the trucks. The salt material gets caught in a lot of hidden areas under vehicles and cannot be reached by rinsing with a regular hose and nozzle.

SOLUTION:

The unit is connected to a hose - preferably with good water pressure. The unit is then moved under the vehicle and water is turned on. The operator (employee) then moves it around under the vehicle rinsing the underside from all different angles. The holes were placed at varying angles along the copper pipe to maximize reach and coverage.

LABOR/MATERIALS/COST:

Depending on in-house supplies or parts that can be recycled from other things, the cost estimate would be around \$100 (if all parts needed to be purchased). Prior to building this product, we researched and sought quotes for undercarriage washing systems but prices were very high - into the thousands. To save money, we developed this unit.

SAVINGS/BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:

The unit performs very well and removes salt, sand, rust and other debris that gets lodged in areas that normally do not get rinsed or can be seen. The benefit to us is that it allows employees to easily perform a better rinse and wash on town vehicles - prolonging the life of the vehicles and deterring the effects of corrosion on the equipment. Getting even one additional year out of a truck will easily save thousands of dollars. Extending the life of our fleet is a tremendous benefit to our community.

