



Kids and adults alike can have fun with the Backyard Zipline. The adult version includes 200 ft. of cable, a brake setup, and a handle and seat.

## Add A Zipline To Your Backyard

Ever thought of adding a zipline to your backyard? Backyard Ziplines can help, with kits starting at \$175 for a 100-ft. cable and a trolley with a handle.

"The majority of our customers buy it for their kids with the intent of using it themselves," says Ryan Olszewski, owner of the Portland, Ore., business. The Ultimate Torpedo Zip Kit is perfect for adults. For \$440, it includes 200 ft. of cable, a brake setup, and a handle and seat with a 350-lb. limit.

Made of stainless steel and galvanized materials that are rubber or powder coated, the parts are weather-resistant and made to last by a U.S. machining business that tests the parts for safety.

"The safety aspect is a good reason for buying from us. Not all parts are safe on a zipline," Olszewski says. "Some homemade ones use a rope and pulley, which shakes and can come apart. Rope has give and stretches so you can hit the ground."

Backyard Zipline kits come with or without cable, giving buyers the option of buying the cable (from 3/16-in. to 3/8-in.) locally.

While most kits are used in backyards,



Kit parts are made of stainless steel and galvanized materials that are rubber or powder-coated for weather resistance.

many go to camps and church groups. The company has custom-cut cable from 10 to 1,800 ft., including a few commercial ziplines.

Olszewski started his business with Backyard Playplaces and developed the zipline kits when he found there wasn't much available. The kits are available through the business's website.

Dealer inquiries are welcome.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Backyard Ziplines, P.O. Box 68258, Portland, Ore. 97268 (ph 888 771-2579; www.backyardziplines.com).

## Pottery Pigs Bring Hefty Prices

As the owner of Glass Works Auctions, James Hagenbuch owns the world's largest collection of pottery pigs. The porcine-shaped stoneware containers were originally designed as whiskey flasks, some with a cork between the hams. Today, they are popular collector items, one selling earlier this year for \$21,850. Another at the same auction sold for only \$500 due to chips and other factors.

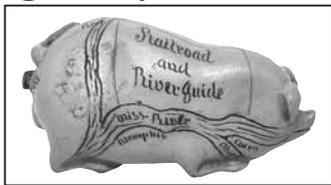
"The smallest ones were about 6 in. in length and the bigger about 12 in.," says Hagenbuch. "They were made during a time after the Civil War when whiskey was very popular and heavily used. Most were made of glass, but several pottery shops made them as well."

Hagenbuch cites Anna Pottery, Anna, Ill., as one of the more popular sources for flasks. The company made generic pig flasks for sale to the public and also flasks commissioned by distilleries.

"The commissioned pigs were limited in number and are the more valuable of the two," says Hagenbuch. "The Kirkpatrick brothers who owned it were eccentrics, but were incredibly skilled workmen."

They made elaborate flasks with snakes and other custom designs. For the generic pigs, they often followed a common design called Railroad and River Guides. They're so accurate that dating them can be done by comparing features on maps. If a bridge isn't featured, the pig was likely made prior to the year of its construction.

The quality of the pottery pigs is part of



James Hagenbuch owns the world's largest collection of pottery pigs, which have become popular collector items.



Pig-shaped stoneware containers were originally designed as whiskey flasks.

what makes them so valuable. The other aspect is the uniqueness. "Since they were handmade and hand scribed, you'll never find two that are identical," explains Hagenbuch.

The collector is always on the lookout for new additions. However, he will occasionally sell a pottery pig if it's similar to another in his collection. Increased popularity among folk art and stoneware collectors in recent years has driven up prices, says Hagenbuch.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Glass Works Auctions, P.O. Box 180, East Greenville, Penn. 18041 (ph 215 679-5849; www.glswrk-auction.com).

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Carolina Dogs – sometimes known as American Dingos – are believed to be a direct descendant of the earliest dogs. They run wild in the southeastern U.S.

## Ancient Dogs Run Wild In The Carolinas

There's a little known dog breed running wild in the southeastern U.S. that may be related to wild dogs in Australia, Asia and the Middle East. The Carolina Dog – sometimes known as the American Dingo – is believed to be a direct descendant of the earliest dogs, though no one knows how it arrived in North America.

"It's not really a breed, though it has been recognized by the United Kennel Club," says Steve Wooten of the Carolina Dog Research and Conservation Project (CDRCP). "There are standard characteristics that they share with other wild dogs around the world."

One characteristic is color. In fact, the Carolina Dog is often called the "yaller dog" or "porch dog" in the rural South. Like the dingo of Australia and other known wild dogs, they are often honey-gold or ginger in color and short haired with fish-hooked tails and large, erect ears. Females run 35 to 50 lbs., while males run 40 to 60 lbs. Height at the shoulder is 19 to 24 in. There are many variations in size, color and other characteristics. For example, Carolina Dogs have a recessive gene for black and tan coloring.

Lehr Brisbin, Jr., senior ecologist, Savannah River Ecology Lab, Aiken, S.C., first identified the Carolina Dog as a native wild dog. He had studied similar feral dogs around the world.

Brisbin found that they often live on the edge of civilization, not truly wild, but also not tamed unless separated from their packs. He has adopted several Carolina Dogs captured by animal control authorities or by people assuming they are simply lost dogs.

Rachel Nagher, a former graduate student of Dr. Brisbin, founded the CDRCP. It's dedicated to the preservation of Carolina Dogs, in particular, those that have been



Carolina Dogs are often honey-gold or ginger in color and short haired with large, erect ears.

removed from the wild. She is president of the organization and decides, based on physical appearance, behavior and area of origin, potential acceptability for the CDRCP rescue program.

"They're very intelligent animals, and bringing them into the home can be a match made in heaven or hell, depending on the animal and the family structure," says Wooten. "We don't usually adopt a dog out to families with children under 14."

The CDRCP kennels are located in Texas and house Carolina Dogs found throughout the southeast U.S. They have large runs with a pond and housing so family units can live in packs as in the wild.

The CDRCP does not refer people to known breeders. Nagher points out that without a breeding association, there's no way to know if a Carolina Dog breeder is simply line breeding, hybridizing or maintaining healthy sets of multiple bloodlines.

Wooten asks that people make contact of the CDRCP through website or by email.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, CDRCP, P.O. Box 464, Manvel, Texas 77578 (cdrpinfo@gmail.com; www.cdrp.org).