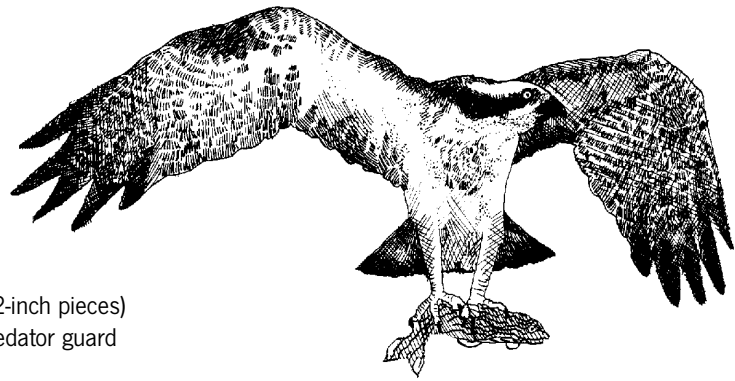


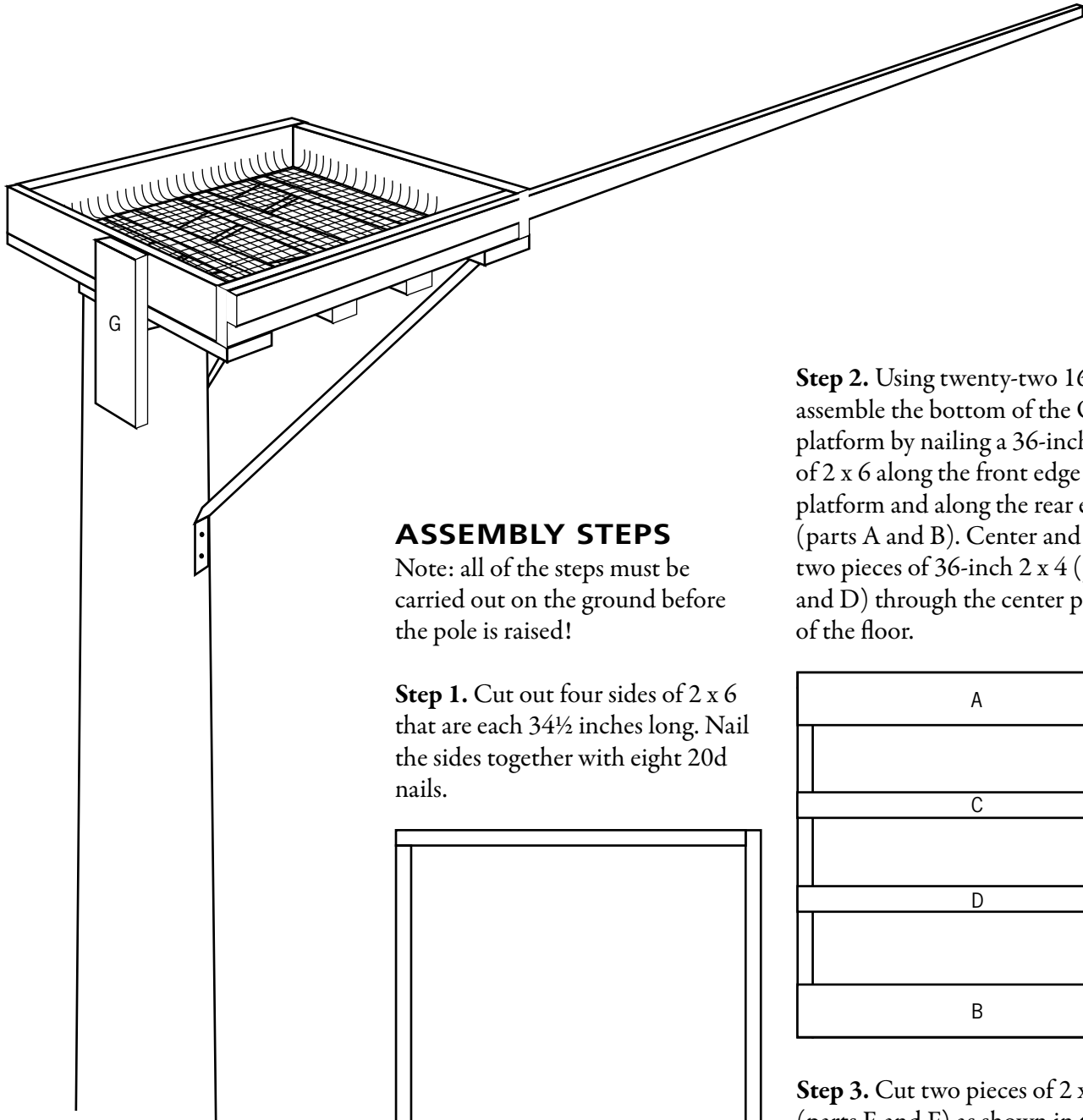
Figure 26

Osprey Nest Platform



Hardware:

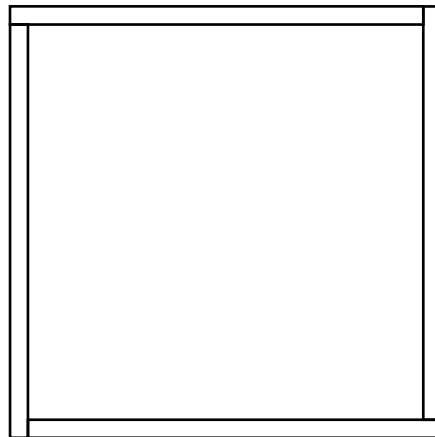
- 50 16d galvanized nails
- 8 20d galvanized nails
- 2 8-inch ringshank pole barn spikes
- 8 3-inch long, 1/4-inch diameter lag screws
- 1 10-foot-long angle iron, 1 1/4 x 1 1/4 inch (cut into two 52-inch pieces)
- 1 36- by 72-inch sheet of aluminum for wrap-around predator guard



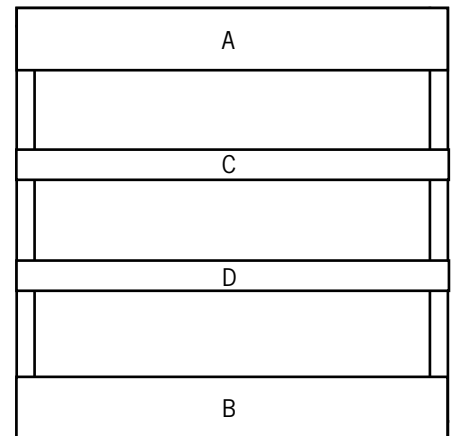
ASSEMBLY STEPS

Note: all of the steps must be carried out on the ground before the pole is raised!

Step 1. Cut out four sides of 2 x 6 that are each 34 1/2 inches long. Nail the sides together with eight 20d nails.



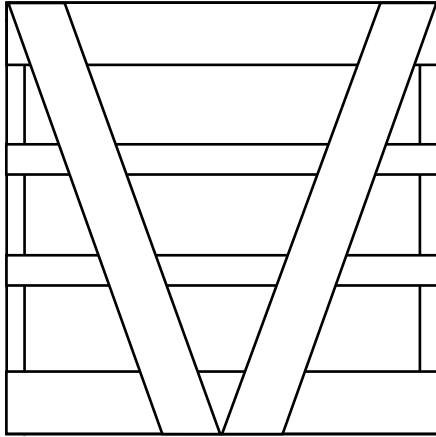
Step 2. Using twenty-two 16d nails, assemble the bottom of the Osprey platform by nailing a 36-inch length of 2 x 6 along the front edge of the platform and along the rear edge (parts A and B). Center and attach two pieces of 36-inch 2 x 4 (parts C and D) through the center portion of the floor.



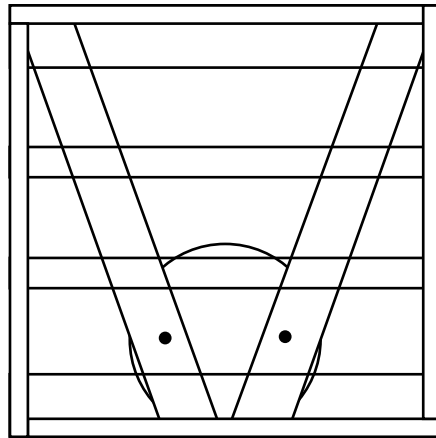
Step 3. Cut two pieces of 2 x 6 (parts E and F) as shown in the diagram. Each side is 37 3/4 inches long, with parallel cuts on the ends

This design has been provided by Three Rivers Park District, Minnesota.

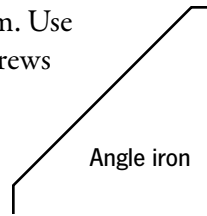
that are cut at a 72° angle. Place these diagonally from the back center of the floor angling toward each outer corner of the platform. Using sixteen 16d nails, nail these boards in place.



Step 4. Use a chain saw to cut the top of the nest pole so it is flat across the top. Turn the nest platform on edge, back edge down, so the floor butts up against the top of the support pole. Use two 8-inch pole barn spikes to nail the platform into the top of the nesting pole.



Step 5. Cut two pieces of 1¼ x 1¼-inch angle-iron brackets to lengths of 52 inches. Four inches from each end, cut one edge to the center so the remaining side can be bent at that point to accommodate being drilled and bolted with lag screw to the support pole and to the bottom of the nest platform. Use eight ¼-inch lag screws that are 3 inches long to screw the angle-iron brackets into place.



Step 6. Once the brackets are attached, turn the nest platform and pole sideways so that a 24-inch-long piece of 2 x 6 (part G) can be nailed to the back of the nest pole and to the back side of the nest platform. Use eight 16d nails for this step. Then, using four 16d nails, nail the 8-foot-long 2 x 4 along one side of the platform so that it extends 5 feet out from the nest to serve as a perch for the Ospreys.

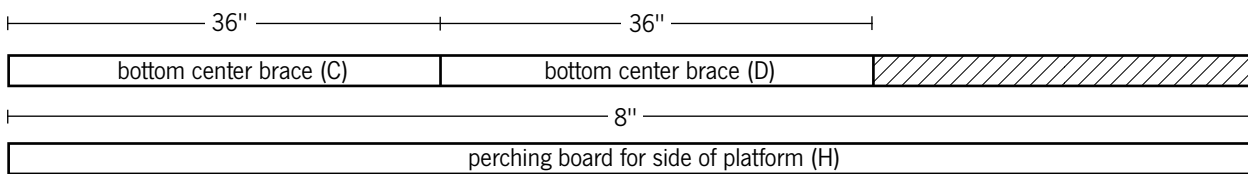
Step 7. Staple a 33- by 33-inch piece of ½-inch-mesh hardware cloth into the bottom of the nest platform.

Step 8. Use heavy cord or wire to fasten an armload of small to medium size sticks into the bottom of the nest to simulate an Osprey nest. The pole is now ready to be set in place.

Step 9. After the pole is erected, nail a 3-foot piece of aluminum sheeting around the pole at chest height as a predator guard. This sheet may need to be replaced every few years if it becomes punctured or damaged because Raccoons will climb over it if it is not slick.

Lumber: One 8- to 10-inch-diameter cedar utility pole 20 to 30 feet long

Lumber: Two 2" x 4" x 8' cedar boards



Lumber: Three 2" x 6" x 10' cedar boards

