

FETCH RETREIVAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Determine how far the top of the broken pipe or pump is down in the well. Use a length of rope or cable for the retrieval line long enough to reach approximately 3-6 feet beyond the top of the broken pipe. Ensure that the tensile strength of the retrieval line is stronger than the combined weight of the pipe, pump, and potential water in the pipe. A secondary rope or twine of equal length will be needed for the release line.

2. Tie the retrieval line securely to the large hole at the top of THEFETCH. A bowline knot is recommended if using rope, and steel wire clamps for steel cable. Make sure you understand how to properly secure the tool so the line doesn't come undone. The release line is tied to one of the smaller holes on the release mechanism. The release line does not carry any load or weight on the tool. Simple nylon rope or twine will work.

3. Test THEFETCH with each use by sliding the release mechanism back and forth. It should move easily without binding. If there is significant resistance, check the tool for any obstructions or sediment that could prevent it from operating properly. If the tool is clean, then it may be in a bind and needs to be reset. Refer to the reset procedure on the website. Call us for technical support if problems persist.

4. Keep the retrieval line and the release line separated to prevent tangling. The tool will not work properly if the lines get tangled. While holding the retrieval line or securing it to an external support outside of the well, drop THEFETCH down the side of the well casing. Pull up on the retrieval line to seat the dogs onto the pipe. This may take several attempts at different points along the well casing.

-Helpful tip: Broken pipes are usually located on the side wall of the casing. Attempting different points along the side wall will yield better success than dropping it down the center.

5. IMPORTANT!!! When retrieving the pipe, a come-along is recommended to start the pulling process. There will be a vacuum that gets created from the pressure of the pump being stuck in silt or sediment. Using a come-along applies smooth pressure to help break the vacuum. If a hydraulic or electric winch is used to start the pull, the load will be amplified and could cause the tool to slide off the pipe or tear the sidewall. Use a piece of tape on the retrieval line to mark a reference point level with the top of the casing. Apply approximately 200 pounds of pressure to the come-along. If the pipe doesn't immediately come up, let it set for a while then come back to check the tape reference point to see if it has moved. Apply some more pressure and repeat the process until the pipe breaks free of the vacuum.

6. If THEFETCH will not pull up the pipe, or if it gets stuck, relax the retrieval line and pull up on the release line. If the release line does not break the tool loose, then it is locked and will need to be driven down to break the tension on the dogs. Contact us for more information on how to build a pipe slide. A pipe slide can be made with a section of 1 1/4" ID pipe weighing about 3 pounds with a hole drilled through the top sidewall. Tie off a section of rope through the hole and run the release line and retrieval line through the pipe. Drop the pipe down to hit the top of the tool. It may take several tries to drive the tool down. This relieves the pressure on the dogs and allows the tool to be recovered.

