



RECOVERED WATER LEVEL INDICATOR

Original: Simple Water Level Indicator

February - 28 - 2008

<http://www.circuitstoday.com/simple-water-level-idicator>

This project monitors condensation water. The condensation pump from the furnace/air conditioner pushes water through tubing to a 3-way valve. In the summer, the valve is set to allow water to flow into the holding tank. Winter, water is directed into a sink and down the drain.

Thin aluminum bare wire (hardware stores) was used as sensors. Insulation stripped from house wiring covers the wire inside the sensor tube (see photos). The wires terminate outside the tank with screw terminals spaced apart inside the tube. Computer network wire, CAT5e, connects the sensors to the monitor over my desk. This gives clear indication of the water level in the recovery tank. I use this water to fill a watering-can and water my hot peppers! The overflow was connected to another tank sitting on the ground. When we emptied this tank, we removed it and directed the water back to the basement sink. We're getting too much water!

This is another fun project. Drilling holes and running wires kept the women in the house wondering what I was up to!

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The cement blocks under the tank are resting upon 2 more layers of blocks buried in the ground. I wanted this tank to be secure and not tip because of ground freeze and thaw. The tank is removed for the winter of course, but the blocks are not!

A closeup view of the pipes inside the tank shows small openings. The water enters slowly. This tank is not connected to down spouts. The short overflow line stops in mid air. It was connected to another tank.

The CAT5e cable and water inlet line exit the brick wall through a weather electrical box. Inside the box is a CAT5e connector. It disconnects the line from the basement inside the box. The water hose has an inline barb terminating a few inches below.

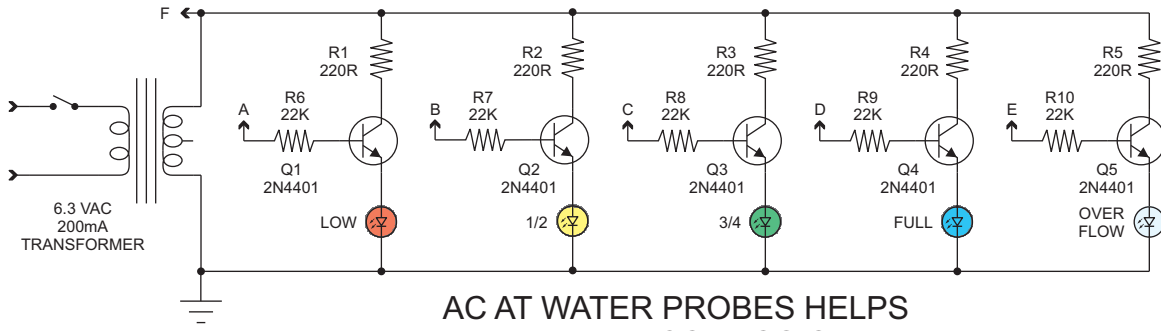
The outlet valve and bulkhead are 3/4". This makes filling a watering-can quick, even at the low water level.

The sensing wires exit the tube and are wrapped around the tube once at predetermined positions.

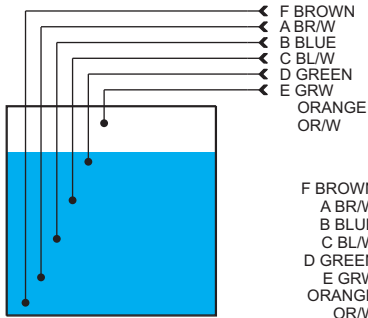
We were amazed at how much water is taken out of the air!



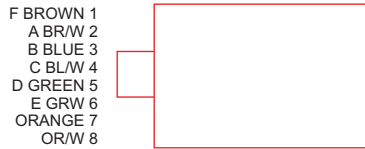
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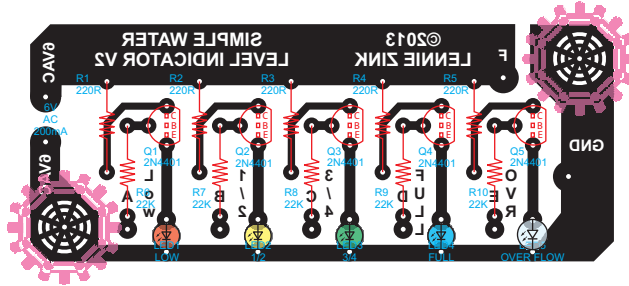
AC AT WATER PROBES HELPS
PREVENT CORROSION
(so I'm told)



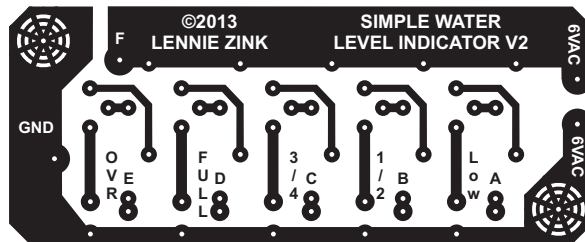
CAT5e JACKS



PARTS LAYOUT



BOTTOM VIEW



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