

## Outfitting Your RV — Essential Items

- ✓ Water Pressure Regulator
- ✓ Fresh Water Hose
- ✓ In-Line Water Filter
- ✓ Sewer Hose
- ✓ Sewer Hose Fittings
- ✓ Electrical Extension Cord
- ✓ Electrical Adapters
- ✓ Garden Hose
- ✓ Wheel Chocks
- ✓ Leveling Blocks
- ✓ Level or Stick-On Levelers
- ✓ Extra Fuses
- ✓ Fuse Puller
- ✓ Extra Bulbs
- ✓ Fire Extinguisher
- ✓ First Aid Kit
- ✓ Black Water Chemicals
- ✓ RV Toilet Paper
- ✓ Rags
- ✓ Disposable Rubber Gloves
- ✓ Non-Slip Cabinet Linings
- ✓ Flashlight
- ✓ Matches
- ✓ Tools or a Basic Toolkit
- ✓ Tire Gauge

## Outfitting Your RV — Nice To Have Items

- ✓ Folding Shovel
- ✓ Axe
- ✓ Sewer Hose Support
- ✓ Awning Tie-Downs
- ✓ Regular Extension Cord
- ✓ Duct Tape
- ✓ Electrician Tape
- ✓ Bungee Cords
- ✓ Another Flashlight
- ✓ Trash Can
- ✓ Co-Ax Cable
- ✓ Telephone and Wire
- ✓ Electrical Tester
- ✓ Lubricating Oil
- ✓ Vacuum Cleaner
- ✓ Broom and Dust Pan
- ✓ Ant Spray and Ant Traps
- ✓ Swiss Army Knife
- ✓ Rope and/or String
- ✓ Carpet or Fake Grass
- ✓ Extra Mirror

## Initial Inventory

- ✓ Coffee Pot
- ✓ Toaster
- ✓ Plates (large and small)
- ✓ Silverware (regular + plastic)
- ✓ Can opener
- ✓ Kitchen gadgets- spatula, tongs, knives etc
- ✓ Measuring cups & spoons
- ✓ Pot holders
- ✓ Table cloth

- ✓ Water glasses/Drinking cups
- ✓ Coffee Cups
- ✓ Paper plates
- ✓ Small trash can
- ✓ Radio-AC and battery op.
- ✓ Propane grill and accessories.
- ✓ Small propane bottles
- ✓ Assortment of pots and pans
- ✓ Mixing/serving bowls
- ✓ Dish pan
- ✓ Dish drainer
- ✓ Serving tray(s)
- ✓ Broom and dust pan
- ✓ First-Aid kit
- ✓ Aspirin and Medications
- ✓ Bug spray
- ✓ Suntan lotion
- ✓ Bed spreads
- ✓ Pillows, sheets, pillow cases
- ✓ Bath towels/wash cloths
- ✓ Beach towels
- ✓ Blankets
- ✓ Kitchen towels
- ✓ Travel clock
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Napkins
- ✓ Ziplock bags
- ✓ Aluminum foil
- ✓ Plastic wrap
- ✓ Trash bags
- ✓ Bar soap and dishwashing det.
- ✓ Toiletry kit
- ✓ Windbreaker
- ✓ Folding chairs
- ✓ Playing cards / Games
- ✓ Pens/pencils & paper
- ✓ Umbrella
- ✓ Salt & Pepper
- ✓ Sugar
- ✓ Coffee & Tea bags
- ✓ Toilet paper (RV-type)
- ✓ Kleenex
- ✓ Sponges
- ✓ Rags

## Packing Up — Inside Your RV

- ✓ Stow everything loose; coffee maker, toaster, dishes, cups, etc.
- ✓ Take down all portable clocks that could fall.
- ✓ Disconnect and stow any electrical cords.
- ✓ Wrap TVs in a blanket and place on the floor.
- ✓ Lower roof TV antenna.
- ✓ Lower roof satellite dish.
- ✓ Put travel bars in refrigerator.
- ✓ Lock refrigerator door (safety pin or latch).
- ✓ Turn off water pump.
- ✓ Turn off electric water heater.
- ✓ Secure bathroom shower door.

- ✓ Close and/or secure all other doors (pass-thru, bathroom and bedroom closet doors).
- ✓ Stow and secure all bathroom items.
- ✓ Lower roof vents.
- ✓ Close and secure all cabinets, doors and drawers.
- ✓ Double check items in cabinets to make sure they won't fall over.
- ✓ Stow and secure any stand-alone tables, chairs and other objects.
- ✓ Turn off refrigerator -or- switch to gas operation.
- ✓ Shut off all gas pilot lights.
- ✓ Shut off all lights, radios and electrical items.
- ✓ Lower range top cover.
- ✓ Close windows and secure blinds/drapes.
- ✓ Secure refrigerator door.
- ✓ Turn off air conditioner or furnace.
- ✓ Put cutting board in sink or stow in cabinet.
- ✓ Make sure the weight inside is as evenly distributed as possible.
- ✓ Put in the slide-outs.
- ✓ Lock in the slide-out (travel bars and/or lock pins).

## Packing Up — Outside Your RV

- ✓ Take down and stow awning lights.
- ✓ Stow all outside items: carpets, chairs, grill, etc.
- ✓ Stow satellite dish and stand.
- ✓ Put up all awnings.
- ✓ Close and lock outside range hood vent.
- ✓ Close front (and rear) window shutters.
- ✓ If not operating the refrigerator, shut off the LP gas bottles.
- ✓ Turn off gas water heater.
- ✓ Put stabilizer jacks up and secure -or- Stow portable jacks.
- ✓ Stow wheel chocks.
- ✓ Put up the steps.
- ✓ Remove and stow any outside electrical connectors.
- ✓ Drain and flush black water holding tank.
- ✓ Put in 2-3 gallons of water and appropriate amount of holding tank chemical into the black water tank.
- ✓ Drain gray water tank.
- ✓ Double check that sewer drain valves on RV are closed and remove the sewer hose.
- ✓ Cap the RV sewer drain outlet.
- ✓ Drain sewer hose, clean and stow.

- ✓ Disconnect shore power electrical cord and stow; close and secure the hatch.
- ✓ Remove fresh water hose, drain and stow.
- ✓ Cover the outside water connection.
- ✓ Remove and stow TV cable and/or phone cords.
- ✓ Check lugs on wheels.
- ✓ Check tire pressure.
- ✓ Make sure all exterior storage items are secure; close and lock all compartments.

## Hitching Up and Pulling Out

- ✓ Put on extended mirrors on the tow vehicle, if applicable
- ✓ Hitch up being sure to check the following:
  - Check that hitch is secure
  - Check sway bars
  - Check spring bars
  - Check break-away cable
  - Check electrical umbilical cord
- ✓ Pull out of the site slowly to the road and stop.
- ✓ Take one last look around the site. Did you forget anything? Is the site clean?
- ✓ Don't forget to stow any levelers you might have used
- ✓ Throw out your last bag of trash.
- ✓ Take one last look around the tow and towed vehicles; everything look secure?
- ✓ Check the lights (stop lights, turn signals and running lights).
- ✓ Check your electric brakes.
- ✓ Pull out of the park slowly.
- ✓ Have a safe trip to wherever you're headed!

## Winterizing Your RV

- ✓ Drain and flush fresh water tank.
- ✓ Drain and flush gray water **and** black water holding tanks.
- ✓ Drain and flush hot water tank.
- ✓ If you have low-point drain lines under your RV:
  - ✓ Open the hot and cold faucets in your RV.
  - ✓ Uncap the low-point drain lines; let water drain completely.
  - ✓ Recap Drain Lines.
  - ✓ Close the hot and cold faucets.
  - ✓ Blow out the water lines: (Note: If you have low-point drain lines, this may not be necessary)
  - ✓ Screw on compressed air adapter onto main fresh water inlet.

- ✓ Apply compressed air, keeping pressure to less than 20 psi.
- ✓ Open each faucet, one at a time, to force water out of lines.
- ✓ Make sure to open **each** faucet in the RV, including the shower and toilet.
- ✓ Open hot water drain plug and blow out the water in this tank.
- ✓ Remove compressed air and compressed air adapter.
- ✓ Replace drain plug in hot water heater and close all faucets.
- ✓ Put Antifreeze in the water lines:
  - ✓ Use **RV Non-Toxic Antifreeze ONLY**
  - ✓ Approximately 1-2 gallons should be plenty
  - ✓ Make sure water pump is off and all faucets are closed
  - ✓ Close the Water Bypass Valve to your hot water tank
- NOTE: If you don't have a Water Bypass Valve for your hot water tank, seriously consider having one installed. Otherwise, in addition to the water lines, you will end up filling the hot water tank with antifreeze. It's not harmful, but you'll use an additional six gallons of antifreeze.
- ✓ Disconnect the water line where it joins the fresh water tank — **or** — If your RV is so equipped, shut off the valve coming from the fresh water tank and open the valve for the winterizing inlet line
- ✓ Place the water inlet line (either from the main system or the winterizing line) into the jug or other source container with the RV antifreeze.
- ✓ Switch on the water pump; it will start to suck up the antifreeze into the lines.
- ✓ Open each valve of each faucet slowly, one at a time, until the red antifreeze starts coming out. Once flowing, shut off the faucet valve.
- NOTE: If for some reason you can't drain the water lines using the low-point drain lines and you can't blow out the lines with compressed air, you will have to wait until the antifreeze pushes out the fresh water in the lines before closing the valve. A rule of thumb; don't shut off the valve until the antifreeze starts coming out.
- ✓ Remember to also do this for the toilet and the shower.
- ✓ Shut off the water pump.
- ✓ Remove the inlet line from the antifreeze, then either:
  - Re-attach the water line to the fresh water tank — **or** —
  - Close the winterizing inlet valve and reopen the fresh water valve, if your RV is so equipped.

- ✓ Pour a small amount of antifreeze down each drain to ensure that the sink traps have antifreeze in them.
- ✓ Pour a small amount of antifreeze in the toilet bowl also. Note: **Do not** flush it into the holding tank.

**You Are Now Done!**

## Storing Your RV

- ✓ For motorhomes, fill up the gas tank. This will prevent moisture build-up in the tank. Also make sure all your fluid levels under the hood are full.
- ✓ Drain and flush all holding tanks; fresh water, gray water, black water and hot water tanks.
- ✓ Drain all water lines, using compressed air or at least the low-point drain lines.
- Note: If storing for the winter, also follow the guidelines for *winterizing* your RV.
- ✓ Close the LP gas tank valve(s). If your LP tanks don't already have a cover, consider purchasing at least a vinyl LP tank cover.
- ✓ Disconnect shore electric power to the RV.
- ✓ Remove all batteries from the RV and store in a place where they won't freeze. Batteries that have been frozen will never again hold a proper charge, and will more than likely have to be replaced.
- ✓ Visually check your RV for anything that might need to be repaired. Make sure you also check the roof.
- ✓ Defrost and clean the refrigerator and freezer. Place open boxes of baking soda or crumpled newspapers in the compartments to eliminate odours during storage.
- ✓ Remove all perishable items from the interior. Include in this any items that are susceptible to freezing, if storing during the winter months.
- ✓ Cover all external outlets, such as furnace outlet, to prevent *critters* from entering.
- ✓ Thoroughly wash the interior and the exterior of your RV. You might also consider shampooing the carpets inside and waxing the outside.
- ✓ Close all windows; leave the roof vent(s) open *ever so slightly* for air circulation during storage.
- ✓ Cover the roof air conditioner.
- ✓ Consider the purchase of a tarp to cover your RV during storage. Make sure you invest in a good tarp that can *breathe*.

### 5 Locations to Serve You!

- Sidney 655-1119 ▪ Mill Bay 743-3800
- Nanaimo Airport 245-3858
- Port Alberni 743-3825
- Courtenay (Merville) 337-2174