

# Maintenance Checklists

[www.rv-boondocking-the-good-life.com](http://www.rv-boondocking-the-good-life.com)

## Inspection Frequencies

- (D) = Daily or Frequently
- (W) = Weekly
- (BW) = Bi-weekly
- (M) = Monthly
- (BM) = Bi-Monthly
- (A) = annually
- (BA) = Bi-annually
- (OC) = with scheduled oil change
- (PM) = per manuf. recommendation

## Interior Body Rv maintenance (M)

- Paneling condition (does it need cleaning?)
- Carpeting (does it need cleaning?)
- Cabinets/knobs (clean, refinish, repair?)
- Inside cabinets and compartments. (Use a flashlight! Signs of vermin? or leaks?)
- Light Bulbs and/or loose fixtures - function test
- Switches - Function test
- Loose moldings, vent grills etc.?
- Upholstery and curtain condition
- Mini Blinds condition? (Need cleaning?)
- Smoke/Propane/CO Detectors. function test
- Window Condition. (Any sign of leaking around the frame?)
- Vents. Function and integrity. (Any sign of leaking? Need cleaning?)
- Mattress condition evaluation
- Shower stall and sinks. (Caulking? Mold? Leaky faucets? Mineral deposits?)

## Exterior Body Rv maintenance checklist Tow vehicle/Trailer/Motorhome/Toad (M)

- Skin (Need cleaning? Need waxing?)
- Skin - any stress cracks that will need attention?
- Seam Caulking condition?
- Roof, membrane condition? (Need cleaning, re-caulking of penetrations or seams?)
- Window / Door caulking
- Loose screws anywhere?
- Under the belly.....(anything look loose or "wrong"? Take your time, this doesn't get seen much!)
- Slide weather sealing strips - condition?
- Check of all running, brake, headlights, turn signals, ALL exterior lights
- Windshield Wipers - condition?
- Door lock function - (lube with a "dry" silicone based "lock" lubricant)
- Weigh your entire rig (know exactly where you are in relation to your GVW and GCVW) (A)
- Measure and record (Know) the height of your rig
- Clean and lube landing gear on trailers. (A)
- Are there ANY possible entrance points for mice or other vermin? ( seal any >1/4")

### Appliances interior and exterior Rv maintenance checklist (A)

- Furnace - inspect and clean blower, combustion chamber, control compartment  
(remove any dust, lint, obstructions, test gas line for leaks)
- Flush Hot Water Heater 2 -3 times annually
- Hot Water Heater sacrificial electrode - Install if absent / replace as needed
- Manually Operate Pressure-temperature relief valve on Hot water Heater
- Clean Hot water heater burner tube (per manuf. instructions)
- Refrigerator - Defrost as necessary
- Inspect refrigerator door seals
- Inspect refrigerator burner flame per manufacturer instructions in owners manual
- Inspect and clean burner / flue of refrigerator per manuf. owners manual
- Inspect / clean the area \*at the rear\* of the refrigerator. \*DO NOT USE FOR ANY STORAGE !\*
- Make sure the refrigerator thermocouple tip is clean and secure
- Metal screens over furnace / hot water heater exhaust vents (condition? Or install one!)
- Clean Air conditioner Filter
- Inspect Air Conditioner Cover for Condition. (Clear of any nests or other "Collections")

### Engine / Engine Compartment / Drive Train Maintenance

- Oil level (D)
- Oil change (PM)
- Transmission level (OC)
- Transmission oil/fluid change (PM)
- Transfer case level (OC)
- Transfer case oil change (PM)
- Differential oil level (OC)
- Differential oil change (PM)
- Fuel filter change ( I change mine every 9,000 miles / every 2nd oil change)
- Power Steering Fluid level (OC)
- Windshield Washer fluid (OC)
- Radiator Coolant level (OC)
- Coolant Change (PM)
- Battery Terminals (condition - clean or replace?) (BM)
- Battery "Water" level (distilled water only) (M)
- Engine Air filter condition (clean/replace?) (OC)
- Master Hydraulic Cylinder Fluid level (OC)
- Radiator hoses (cracked / soft?) (OC)
- Fan belts (cracked / worn ?) (OC)
- General Visual inspection (Leaks anywhere? Cleanliness?) (D)(OC)
- Diesel Fuel additive "on hand" (Federal mandated low quality fuel dictates a fuel supplement for engine wear!)

### Tires / Suspension / Brakes Maintenance

- Air pressure (add valve extenders to dually tires to make it easier to check don't "find excuses" not to!) (W)
- Tread wear (Lincoln test - Put a penny in the tread with Abes head down. If you see the top of his head, time for new tires!) (BM)
- Tire wear pattern - any indications of alignment/shock absorber "issues"?
- Tire rotation due? 5,000 miles +/-?
- Visual insp. of suspension. (fluid leaks? broken, loose, worn shackles, bushings, tie rods, etc?) (BM)
- Cracked / abraded brake lines? (BM)
- Disc brakes - brake wear, rotor "wear" (excessive "grooving of rotors"?) (BM)
- Brake function - do the brakes "pull" one way or the other? or do they stop straight?  
Is excessive pressure required to stop? Excessive squealing or noise when applied? Some very light, occasional squeaking is normal, especially with disc brakes (dust on the rotors). Loud or prolonged indicates something is wrong.  
(every time you drive it!)
- Wheel Bearings repacked? (A)
- Brake lining inspection (A)
- Brake adjustment (3000 miles)

### House Power Systems - Solar and Generator

- Clean Batteries & terminals (with a baking soda & water solution \*\*\*DO NOT\*\*\* get any IN a CELL!!) (M)
- Check specific gravity of each cell with a proper tester (M)
- Fill each cell to proper level with distilled water (M)
- Check voltage (M)
- Clean Solar Panels (Maximize their efficiency) (M)
- Check all wiring connections for tightness (M)
- Exercise your generator monthly (two hours per month under load. "Use it or Loose it" (M)

### Gen. Electrical Wiring Maintenance (Overlaps Power Systems, fit it in where it suits you)

- General inspection of all visibly accessible wiring, switches, breakers etc. Look for collections of dead bugs, loose connections, abrasions etc. (M)
- Remember to look UNDER the rig (anything abrading, working loose, cracked insulation) (M)

### Propane System Maintenance

- Check all fittings and lines. (Use a soap water mix for leak detection) (M)
- Test all Detectors (part of interior inspection as well) (M)
- Inspect propane bottles for corrosion / damage. Replace if any doubt exists. If it makes you wonder do you really want to risk demonstrating the Big Bang Theory? (M)

### Hitch Systems (maintain a constant observation of the Hitch. Integrity of this system is literally a matter of life and death)

- Check for ease of function / lubrication (D)
- Worn /abraded / cracked parts on locking mechanism (D)
- Inspect for loose bolts or any signs of movement where there should be none! (D)
- Inspect for signs of any cracking or failure in the Fifth wheel attachment to the truck (D)
- Inspect the Hitch structure on the trailer for any signs of cracking as well. (D)
- Inspect the Wiring umbilical for trailers. (Clean or replace if corroded or damaged) (D)
- Motorhomes. (Insp./test any connections and systems used to activate Toad brakes/Tail lights) (D)
- Test Breakaway switch per manufacturer instructions (M)

## Water Systems Maintenance- Fresh and Waste

(Pretty much as you go. each time you fill or dump)

- Inspect all valves for leaks
- Inspect water pump for leaks
- Sanitize the Fresh Water Tank (as often as you feel the need to. You can not clean your fresh water container too much)
- Sanitize your Fresh Water fill hose (most folks forget about this. They clean the tank and then fill it up with a dirty hose!)
- Back Flush the Waste Tanks.....regularly is not a bad thing.
- Go over your connection Dump Hose and fittings. Replace anything worn.
- YOU DO NOT WANT this sucker to fail.....by definition, if it fails, it's full of all kinds of "stuff" you'd rather not have pouring all over the place, Trust Me!

### \*\*\*Water System Sanitizing Solution\*\*\*

- Multiply the "gallons of tank capacity" by 0.13 . This equals the ounces of regular house hold bleach required to sanitize the system.
- Mix the proper amount of bleach into a solution within a container of water.
- Pour that solution into the tank and then complete filling the tank with fresh water
- Open ALL faucets and run until the odor of chlorine is detected.
- The standard solution must remain in contact for (4) four hours to completely disinfect the system.
- If you double the solution concentration you may reduce contact time to (1) one hour.
- At completion of the contact time, drain the tank. Refill with fresh water and purge all sanitizing solution from the system.