

Dewinterizing, Sanitizing and Filling Your Hot Water Tank in a Truck Camper

Dewintering:

- Open the *Low Point Drains* using a bucket to capture the RV antifreeze
- Check that the *Hot Water Tank Bypass Valve* is set to bypass the *Hot Water Tank*
- Check that the *Fresh Water Tank Bypass Valve* is set to use water from the *Fresh Water Tank*
- Fill a little fresh water into the *Fresh Water Tank* (~10 gallons)
 - Turn on *Water Pump* and let the fresh water flow clear through the *Low Point Drains*.
- Close the *Low Point Drains*
- Turn on *Water Pump* and let the system pressurize to the point where the pump stops.
- Turn on each fixture in sequence. Let the water run until it is completely clear and fresh smelling and then shut off that fixture and turn on the next one:
 - Kitchen faucet - cold
 - Kitchen faucet - hot
 - Bathroom sink faucet - cold
 - Bathroom sink faucet - hot
 - Shower faucet - cold
 - Shower faucet - hot
 - Toilet
 - Outside shower - cold
 - Outside shower - hot
- If not sanitizing your *Fresh Water Tank*, you can fill up with fresh water now and clean out and fill your hot water tank (see below)

Sanitizing Your Fresh Tank:

- Continuing from *Dewinterizing* on page 1
- Drain your *Fresh Water Tank* again. I like to drain this water into my grey and black tanks and then do a clean water only Sani-dump to ensure that the everything works after winter. You want to start from empty tanks to ensure you have the correct mix of water and bleach to properly sanitize
- Add 15 gallons of water into your *Fresh Water Tank* (or half of your volume if you have a smaller tank)
 - Measure using a *Flow Meter* on your hose
 - Or use a timed measure of filling a 5-gallon bucket and multiplying the time it takes by 3
- Add bleach based on 1/4 cup of original strength bleach for 15 gallons of water. I'd recommend using 1/2 cup for 30 gallons of water
 - **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Clorox Bleach now comes in a concentrated formula and you must multiply this volume of bleach by 64%. A 1/2 cup now becomes 0.32 of a cup, or slightly less than 1/3rd of a cup
- Add another 15 gallons of water into your *Fresh Water Tank*
- Flow the water and bleach mixture from the fresh tank through all of the faucets and toilet as in section 1
- Turn off your *Water Pump* and let this diluted water and bleach mixture sit for a minimum of 4 hours
- After the diluted bleach and water mixture has sat for the appropriate time, turn on your pump and run the tanks empty through each fixture. I like to run this water into both the grey and black tanks as it adds diluted bleach to clean those tanks
- Dump the tanks in a local Sani-dump. This process tests the *Dump Valves* and *Waste Hoses* in the cleanest way possible
- Put a small amount of fresh water (about 10 gallons) into the *Fresh Water Tank* and flow through all of the fixtures to ensure everything is clean and all of the bleach is flushed out. This may be done before you dump the *Waste Tanks*, but I prefer to have a small amount of fresh water in the bottom of my *Waste Tanks*
- Add an *RV Inline Water Filter* to your *Incoming Water Line* and fill your *Fresh Water Tank*

Filling Your Hot Water Tank:

- Once you have filled your tank with fresh water, it's important to fill and test your *Hot Water Tank*.
- Make sure your *Anode* is removed from your *Hot Water Tank*
- Before you fill your *Hot Water Tank*, use a **Camo 11691 RV Water Heater Tank Riser** or similar to flush the inside of your *Hot Water Tank* by rinsing with fresh water through the open *Anode* hole
- Check your *Anode's* condition - these are sacrificial and if you have any of the main central rod showing, replace it. They are inexpensive and I recommend replacing them each season
- Add two wraps of *Teflon tape* around the threads on the *Anode*.
- Insert and tighten the *Anode*, being careful not to cross-thread the rod
- Use a 1- 1/16" *Socket* to tighten the *Anode*
- Locate the *Hot Water Tank Bypass Valve* inside your truck camper
- Turn on your *Water Pump* and then turn the *Bypass Valve* to flow water into your *Hot Water Tank*
- Open the hot water faucets in your sink/bathroom to vent the air from the *Hot Water Tank*. After water is flowing steadily, you can close the fixtures
- Check the outside of the *Hot Water Tank* near the anode to ensure there are no leaks
- Turn on your *Gas/Electric Water Heater* and check that the water warms up

Preparing Your Black Tank

- Based on my process for sanitizing your *Fresh Water Tank*, you will have about 5 gallons of rinse water in your *Black and Grey Tanks*.
- If you drained the *Fresh Water Tank* before dumping, you won't have any water in the *Black Tank*. I recommend putting ~5 gallons of water into the tank to help keep "things" moving in the tank
- Add your favourite *RV Black Tank Cleaner* to the small amount of water that is in the bottom of the tank per the manufacturer's recommendations

@BeyondYourFrontDoor

Disclaimer:

This process works on my 2016 Arctic Fox 1150 Truck Camper.

Please check your owner's manual for any instructions specific for instructions contrary to this sheet. Be aware that using chemicals such as bleach may be hazardous or dangerous and appropriate PPE should be worn.

We hold no liability for damage or injury that occur as a result of following this guide.